

**WAYNE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA**

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**DATE:** January 23, 2002

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Ontario Elementary Gymnasium

**7:00** Tour of Facilities

**7:30** Call to Order /Pledge of Allegiance

**7:35** Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

**Att. 1**

**7:40** Public Comment

**7:50** Board Member Comments

**7:55** Board President's Comments

**8:00** Superintendent's Report

1. Building Project
2. Student Questions

**9:15** Public Comment/Board Comments

**9:20** Adjournment

***District Mission Statement***

*Based on the belief that all students can learn, the staff of the Wayne Central School District accepts the responsibility to teach all students, regardless of differences, the fundamental skills. We further accept the responsibility to challenge all students to attain higher levels of achievement. Wayne Central will provide the opportunity, environment, and encouragement to meet this goal while developing the whole child, physically, socially, emotionally, and culturally.*

**WAYNE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Ontario Center, New York 14520**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**APPROVED**

**UNOFFICIAL UNTIL**

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 9, 2002  
**TYPE:** Regular Business Meeting  
 Office

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** District

**PRESENT:** Trustees Anderson, Brunner (arrived @ 6:50 p.m.), Griswold, Lyke, Robusto, Triou, Wyse; District Clerk Switzer; Administrators Havens, Morrin, Shaffer, La Ruche, Saxby, Woodard, Atseff, Spring, Pearles, Blankenberg

**ABSENT:** Trustees Johnson & Ratcliffe

**GUESTS:** Visitor's Roster filed in clerk's file, this meeting

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m. by Mark A. Wyse, School Board President

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION** (Personnel, Legal Matters)

Mr. Griswold offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting, at 6:32 p.m., for an executive session on personnel matters pertaining to specific personnel and pending legal matters. 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent (Mrs. Brunner, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

(Mrs. Brunner arrived @ 6:50 p.m.)

**III. RECONVENE:** 7:15 p.m.

**IV. RECESS:** 7:16 p.m.

**V. RECONVENE:** 7:30 p.m.

**VI. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES** (December 12, 2001)

Mrs. Brunner offered a **MOTION** to approve the agenda for this evening's meeting as presented. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

Mr. Triou offered a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2001 as presented. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried

**A. VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Wyse noted that school board meetings are meetings conducted in public, not public meetings. The Board of Education devotes a portion of the agenda to time for public comment and responses require the action of the total school board. The Board of Education encourages public participation and requests that each speaker provide their name, address, group(s) they represent (if any), and the topic(s) they wish to address.

A. Carol Fitzgerald, 2034 Ridge Road, Ontario, stated that she is the parent of a senior, a sophomore and a fifth grader and is working on plans for an **overnight drug and alcohol free senior graduation party for the Class of 2002**. She noted the success with such an event by many other districts to provide a safe place for seniors to enjoy a graduation party. She asked that the Board of Education and administrators support this effort; she has enlisted the support of the Ontario Primary-Elementary PTA and the Walworth-Ontario Rotary Club as well as several parents. Mr. Wyse stated that the school board appreciates her efforts and those of others helping her and extends its support to the effort. He noted that Mr. Havens will discuss the issue further with Mrs. Fitzgerald.

B. Joanna Diller, 3652 View Pointe Drive, Macedon, stated that her son attends Freewill Elementary School where she frequently volunteers and she feels have excellent programs and staff members. During a recent parent-teacher conference, she learned that there is a **shortage of social studies textbooks** in her son's team. She asked if this is a common issue in the school district and

asked the school board to allocate funds within the current budget to meet those needs. She shared her personal experience of the importance of a strong foundation for children in the elementary school, using the best resources available.

- C. William Welker, 5436 Ontario Center Road, Ontario (Town of Walworth), expressed concern about **long-term maintenance costs and the district's exposure to liability with a swimming pool**. He does not believe that the school district needs to spend money on a study of the pool proposal; rather, many citizens could offer insight and assistance. He asked that the school board carefully consider all of the factors involved with a pool when determining future facility needs. Mr. Wyse thanked him for his comments and noted that the topic of facilities is set for later this evening and for a special meeting/workshop session on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

## IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Mrs. Brunner reported that she attended last evening's meeting of the **Ontario Primary-Elementary PTA** and shared information about their recent meetings and holiday shop. She enjoys attending these and other parent group meetings and extended thanks to them for the many items they provide to enhance educational services for our children. She believes the school board often does not acknowledge and recognize these contributions.

## X. BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- A. Mr. Wyse extended **condolences** to the families of Karen Greenlee, a long-time teacher aide at Freewill Elementary School, and Emerson Dey, former custodian at the high school, on their recent passing. Mr. Dey's wife is retired cook manager at the middle school and his daughter, Mrs. Spink, retired last June as a typist at the district office.

## XI. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Havens noted that this meeting marked the start of distribution of agenda items to trustees by electronic means. He invited feedback and suggestions from trustees on this new effort.

### REPORT ON ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES PROGRAM (AIS)

Mr. Havens introduced Mr. Larry Spring, assistant superintendent for instruction, to present an update and overview of the academic intervention services (AIS) provided for our students.

Mr. Spring noted that since his arrival this fall, he has collected information and conferred with staff members who were involved in the AIS program started last year. He projected and reviewed details of the program. (copy of outline filed in clerk's agenda file, this meeting)

He noted that state regulations require school districts to identify and provide support for students most in need or at risk of not meeting state standards. Both state exams and local assessments (e.g. Terranova exam, parent/staff referral, literacy screening) are used to identify students requiring the support and to measure progress of students each year.

The additional instructional services are provided both during and outside of the regular school day. They range from school day efforts at individual support on specific subjects, computer aided instruction to reinforce student skills and knowledge and Title I remedial programs to after school sessions with teachers and summer elementary reading programs. Subject-area study halls are also scheduled to provide time for students to work with teachers for extra support and instruction.

Mr. Spring also presented a summary of the numbers of students receiving intervention services in each of the five schools and how funding is allocated. He reviewed how he works with principals and staff members to analyze effectiveness of services to reduce the number of children requiring intervention services.

Mr. Triou asked if the budget allocation for AIS would increase in the 2002-2003 budget. Mr. Spring stated he forecasts a level close to the current year's allocation. He feels that staff and resources are well matched to meet our needs.

Mr. Triou noted previous feedback from building principals at on the difficulty of including all programs for students within the regular school day; he asked how AIS services are integrated and how many students participate in programs offered after school. Mr. Spring noted that student participation, in general, is healthy yet there is a continuing need to develop creative approaches to scheduling to provide services within the school day.

Mrs. Lyke asked if the Terranova tests correspond to the state assessments. Mr. Spring stated that there is a rather high correlation in the two tests and that both state tests and the Terranova exam provide relatively strong indicators of student needs. He added that staff members are continually seeking more information from these exams to help develop necessary intervention efforts for students.

Mr. Robusto asked what the goal is for reduction in the number of students who require intervention services. Mr. Spring stated that the goal is to provide the additional services for every child to meet the state standards. He would also like to see both a rigorous assessment to determine how to reduce the number of students who would qualify for the services and some modest improvements in local performance on state exams and assessments. The district's comprehensive educational plan is designed along these lines.

Mrs. Brunner asked if there is evidence that incoming students are poorly prepared or that there is greater need for intervention services among younger, primary aged children to provide a foundation in literacy and mathematics.

Mr. Spring stated that while some new entrants may need additional intervention, it takes a few years for staff and students to adjust to the recent state changes in assessments and more intervention needs may arise during that transition.

Mrs. Brunner asked how important the proposed state-funded pre-kindergarten programs are in the intervention effort. Mr. Spring stated that it will play an important role since early efforts to measure needs and provide support are important for future success.

Mrs. Brunner asked how parents are advised of the need for intervention services for their children and Mrs. Lyke asked how parents are involved in the program. Mr. Spring stated that the state requirements establish the process for informing parents of the criteria used to identify children, for progress reports at regular intervals during the school year and involvement of parents throughout the process.

Mrs. Brunner asked what kind of additional support is provided for two-year state exams like global studies; Mr. Spring provided examples. Mrs. Brunner asked if there is any possibility the State Education Department would change that exam to single years; Mr. Spring stated no.

Mr. Triou asked Mr. Spring if he is a proponent of full-day kindergarten programs. Mr. Spring noted that availability of facilities is a primary concern to offer a full-day program

Mr. Wyse thanked Mr. Spring for his informative presentation.

Mr. Havens noted that the state's expectations for students have changed and now every child must meet requirements for a Regents diploma.

Mr. Griswold asked if trustees concur with his interest in an update to provide clear perspective for trustees on the status of graduation requirements for our students. By consensus, trustees agreed to ask Mr. Havens to compile this information.

## UPDATE ON CAPITAL FACILITIES PROJECT

Mr. Havens noted the **special meeting/workshop session for Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>** on capital facilities needs. The meeting is set for 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria and will include discussions among trustees, school personnel

and the school architect on questions submitted by trustees and consideration of future directions for district facilities.

With regard to remarks during public comment by Mr. Welker, Mr. Havens noted that the **ad hoc school-community committee** considered three (3) areas: health & safety issues, educational program requirements and other facilities issues. Some members of that committee noted the topic of a swimming pool. He noted his research had found that many districts allocate about \$150,000 for annual pool maintenance issues.

Mr. Wyse noted that trustees have yet to make any firm decisions and that alternatives range from expansion of the cafeteria dining room, a new all weather track and a new football/soccer stadium at the high school to a district-wide K-5 school on the Ontario Center campus, lease of Freewill Elementary School for BOCES classes, shift of the district office and other functions to Ontario Elementary School and construction of a pool.

He noted that these are only **initial discussions** and that available funding sources like a pouring rights agreement with Pepsi or a lease agreement with BOCES would play a major role in any final decisions and proposals for voter consideration. He added that trustees will insist on thorough research of issues prior to final decisions or proposals.

## REPORT ON RATIFICATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT W/ CSEA

Mr. Havens noted that ratification of the proposed collective bargaining agreement with the CSEA support staff unit occurred prior to the holiday recess and congratulated all parties involved. The ratification vote by the CSEA membership was 147 yes and 11 no. The five-year agreement is retroactive to July 1, 2000.

He added that the new wage rates were applied to the first biweekly payroll in January, 2002, and that retroactive checks are scheduled for distribution at the end of January. He extended compliments to the payroll clerk, the business and human resource offices for their phenomenal amount of effort to prepare the retroactive checks. He has met with the CSEA president and plans to conduct regular meetings with the leadership during the school year.

## QUESTIONS FROM STUDENTS

- (1) Harmony Hitchner, 4621 Ontario Center Road, Walworth, asked if varied teachers providing **intervention services** might overwhelm students and if the additional support is provided during or outside of the regular school day. Mr. Spring explained that the fractional description in his report reflects time when students are scheduled to work with their regular teachers and that services are provide both during and outside of the regular school day.
- (2) Tim Black, 3728 Walworth-Ontario Road, Walworth, asked if teachers are compensated for the **additional** time they spend on **intervention services**. Mr. Spring explained that there is no additional compensation during the regular school day and noted the efforts of many staff members to work with children outside of classroom time. Staff members who work in the summer elementary reading program are compensated.
- (3) Harmony Hitchner, supra, asked what process is used if a **parent or student declines intervention services**. Mr. Spring stated that the state regulations require that the school district provide intervention services and convey that message to students and parents. He added that ultimately the school district creates the educational program and must insure that each child meets state standards.

XII. RECESS: 8:28 p.m.

XIII. RECONVENE: 8:45 p.m.

## XIV. ITEMS FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

### A. PERSONNEL CHANGES

Mr. Havens presented the following personnel changes for review and consideration by the Board of Education:

### **INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Phillip Corleto**, school counselor, assigned to Ontario Elementary School, a three-year probationary appointment effective January 10, 2002 through August 31, 2004 at \$33,250 (base plus masters') prorated (served in this position on a temporary basis from September 1, 2001 through January 9, 2002 while Kelly Zimmerman was on leave of absence; Mrs. Zimmerman has resigned).

**Darlene V. Martino**, elementary teacher (.50 FTE), assigned to Freewill Elementary School, a temporary appointment, pending clearance of fingerprints, effective January 14 through June 30, 2002 at \$33,250 (base plus masters') prorated. (BS degree from Elmira College; MS degree from SUNY Brockport) (replacement for Lisa Cook, on an unpaid leave of absence)

**Additional Per Diem Substitute Teachers • 2001 – 2002 School Year**

See Listing, Clerk's Agenda File, This Meeting

**SUPPORTIVE STAFF:**

**RESIGNATIONS:**

**Katharine R. Scott**, teacher aide, assigned to Ontario Elementary School, effective January 18, 2002 (personal reasons)

**Fred Tomeno**, cleaner assigned to the middle school, effective December 28, 2001 (termination)

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Catherine Kelliher**, senior typist, assigned to the district office, (ass't superintendent for instruction), a six-month probationary civil service appointment, pending fingerprint clearance, effective January 2 through July 1, 2002 at \$9.80/hour (replacement for Phylis Spink, retired)

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE:**

**Karen M. Ocque**, teacher aide, assigned to the middle school, extension of an unpaid leave of absence, effective January 26 through June 30, 2002 (personal reasons)

**Isabelle Walker**, teacher aide, assigned to the middle school, extension of an unpaid leave of absence, effective January 26 through June 30, 2002 (personal reasons)

Mr. Triou offered a **MOTION** to approve the personnel changes as recommended by the superintendent of schools. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried

**B. CSE & CPSE PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Havens presented the pupil placement recommendations of the Committees on Special Education and Pre-School Special Education for review and consideration by the Board of Education.

Mrs. Lyke asked how the pre-school evaluation and placement process works and if the number of these children has increased. Mrs. Woodard explained how referrals and placements are handled; the majority is parental referral or inquiry. They lead to an evaluation by an outside agency prior to deliberations by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education. The number of students has increased as have the number of children receiving services for speech and fine motor skills.

Mr. Havens noted that it is essential to address speech needs at an early age to prevent later language deficiencies. This importance is underscored by the state requirement that county governments handle the expenses for pre-school placements.

Mr. Robusto offered a **MOTION**, seconded by Mrs. Lyke, to adopt the following **RESOLUTIONS** for pupil placements by the CSE/CPSE, **TO WIT:**

(1) to approve the recommendation for CSE pupil placements,

**AUTHORIZE ARRANGEMENT OF RECOMMENDED  
SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and authorizes the Director of Student Services to arrange the recommended special programs and services.

- (2) to approve the recommendation for CPSE pupil placements:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION AND  
AUTHORIZE ARRANGEMENT OF RECOMMENDED  
SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Pre-School Special Education and authorizes the Director of Student Services to arrange the recommended special programs and services.

On the question, the **RESOLUTIONS** were adopted by a vote of 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe)

**C. CONSENSUS AGENDA**

- (1) Reports of the School District Treasurer (A/O 10/31/01 & 11/30/01)
- (2) Declare Busses & 4x4 Truck As Surplus Property
- (3) Accept Gift to the School District
- (4) Approve Purchase of School Busses (School Bus Purchase Reserve Fund)

Mr. Havens presented the consensus agenda for review and consideration by the Board of Education. He noted how spare busses replace vehicles designated as surplus property.

Mr. Robusto asked if the busses are replaced based on age, mileage, or both. Mr. Atseff stated that the primary criterion is age. Mr. Wyse asked if a bus becomes a spare when mileage passes 125,000. Mr. Atseff stated yes.

Mrs. Lyke asked if the new state regulations on accounting for bus purchases in the general fund rather than the school bus purchase reserve fund would require any other changes. Mr. Atseff provided details of this recent change in accounting procedures.

Mr. Anderson asked if school districts are still allowed to maintain a school bus purchase reserve fund. Mr. Atseff provided details.

Mrs. Brunner asked if any change would occur in the timing to place orders for the busses to insure arrival in time for school to resume in September. Mr. Atseff explained the process. Mrs. Brunner asked if there is any chance the state would change the new bus purchase accounting regulation; Mr. Atseff stated probably not.

Mr. Triou asked how the accounting changes will impact the bus purchase reserve fund. Mr. Atseff provided details.

Mrs. Lyke offered a **MOTION**, seconded by **Mr. Wyse**, to approve/adopt the consensus agenda, as presented by the superintendent of schools, as follows:

- (1) Receive & file **reports of the school district treasurer** for the periods ending October 31 and November 30, 2001 (copies attached to these minutes in the minute book)
- (2) Declare school busses #163, 164, 165, 179, 180, 184, 188, 190 and a 1986 Chevrolet 4x4 pick-up truck as **surplus property** and authorize disposition, both as provided by Policy 6900
- (3) Accept the **gift to the school district** of \$1,800 from Le Chase Corporation on behalf of the science olympiad
- (4) Adopt a **RESOLUTION** for purchase of school busses from the school bus purchase reserve fund, **TO WIT:**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS  
FROM THE SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE RESERVE FUND  
FOR PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES**



**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize expenditure of funds in a total amount of \$385,746.40 from the school bus purchase reserve fund for purchase of school busses, as noted below, at New York state contract prices, as recommended by the superintendent of schools, for the 2002-2003 school year:

Four (4) 66-passenger school busses @ \$68,892.00 each  
Two (2) 28-passenger school busses @ \$41,589.20 each

On the question, the consensus agenda was approved/adopted by 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

#### D. RESPONSE TO APPEAL ON STUDENT DISCIPLINARY MATTER

Mr. Havens presented the appeal from parents to his decision at a superintendent's hearing for review and consideration by the Board of Education.

Mr. Griswold offered a **MOTION** to direct the superintendent of schools to re-hear the suspension of a specific student. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

### XV. POLICY REVISIONS • Second Reading

<i>Regulation 4531</i>	Field Trip Guidelines	<i>Job Description 9410.23</i>	School Social Worker/Counselor
<i>Exhibit 4531.2</i>	Extended Field Trips	<i>Job Description 9410.31</i>	Occupational Therapist

Mr. Triou presented the proposed revised regulation, exhibit and new job descriptions, as noted above, for second reading and review by the Board of Education.

Mr. Triou offered a **MOTION** to approve second and final reading of the revised regulation and exhibit and new job descriptions as outlined above.

Mr. Anderson noted a recent conversation in which he learned that an insurance company declined to honor a trip cancellation policy in another school district.

Mr. Robusto asked how the jobs of school counselor and social worker/counselor differ. Mr. Pearles and Mrs. Woodard noted the differences in state certification and that the social worker includes more contact with the family and home situation than a school counselor. This is a new job title, not a new position, and is assigned to work with both students and their families in the Eagle Ventures program.

On the question, the vote was 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried

### XVI. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Mrs. Cathy Contino, 2754 Daansen Road, Palmyra, president of the Wayne Teachers' Association, **extended thanks** to Lee Stramonine, Lori Eaton-Smith and each of the students, staff and residents who participated in the **community holiday performance** that benefited the Pines of Peace comfort care home and the Richard Weisenreder Memorial Fund, sponsored by the teacher's association, to help local families experiencing hardships,

### XVII. ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

A. Mrs. Brunner relayed a comment from her visit to the Ontario Primary-Elementary PTA meeting that encouraged the school board to present any **proposed facilities items** as a package rather than as separate items. Some residents have long-term recollections about the prior pool proposal.

B. Mr. Triou extended compliments to staff members, including Mrs. La Barge, his daughter's kindergarten teacher at Freewill Elementary School, who provide regular **written communications to parents** about what is happening in the classroom. He added that despite low feedback, many parents do read and appreciate such efforts, Mr. Havens noted that many teachers communicate in this method yet are unaware if it is effective. Mrs. Contino commented from the audience that, as another teacher who does make such efforts, she appreciates this feedback.

- C. Mrs. Contino, supra, suggested that the school district include some programs or **information on parenting and pre-school programs** in the allotted weekly time block on **Cable Channel 12**.
- D. Mr. Anderson asked about the possibility of **broadcasting school board meetings** in the weekly time block on Cable Channel 12.
- E. Mr. Griswold noted recent media coverage on financial challenges for the Rochester City School District and on **state school aid** in future years, in general, and asked if this is a prevalent topic among chief school officers in our region. Mr. Havens stated that finances are a continuing and common concern among school administrators and, when state funds become restricted, among taxpayers. He is attending a statewide superintendent's meeting next week and expects to hear and learn more on the topic.
- F. Mr. Griswold asked if the other school districts are experiencing the prospect of changes in the **role of school boards**, as is a possibility in the city school district. Mr. Havens noted that the Big Five city school districts are unique in the election of school board members along political party lines and their fiscal dependence on city government for funding.
- G. Mr. Anderson noted that trustees are not receiving copies of **minutes of BOCES school board meetings** and asked that the practice resume.

**XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Brunner offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

**JAMES E. SWITZER**  
School District Clerk

APPROVAL OF \_\_\_\_\_ ES

The foregoing minutes of the Board of Education were submitted for review & (approved as presented)(corrected as noted) at the meeting of

**January 23, 2002**

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School District Clerk

WAYNE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Ontario Center, New York 14520

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
APPROVED

UNOFFICIAL UNTIL

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 16, 2002  
**TYPE:** Regular Business Meeting  
Cafeteria

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** High School

**PRESENT:** Trustees Anderson, Brunner, Griswold, Johnson (arrived @ 8:03 p.m.), Lyke, Ratcliffe (left @ 9:45 p.m.), Robusto, Triou, Wyse; District Clerk Switzer; Administrators Havens, Morrin, Saxby, Woodard, Atseff, Spring, Pearles, Davis, Blankenberg

**GUESTS:** Visitor's Roster filed in clerk's file, this meeting

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 p.m. by Mark A. Wyse, School Board President

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Brunner offered a **MOTION** to approve the agenda for this evening's meeting. Mr. Wyse noted a request to move public comment after trustee discussion on facilities, the intent to request a brief executive session, and a hand-carry personnel item. On the question, the agenda was approved, as revised, by a vote of 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (Mr. Johnson).

IV. **DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS • CAPITAL FACILITIES ISSUES**

Mr. Havens reviewed the efforts to date to address future capital facilities need, viz: report of the ad hoc school-community committee on capital facilities needs, review and preliminary program and planning report by school architect, dated December 12, 2001, on issues identified in ad hoc committee report, and discussions with school officials, review of the architect's report and list of questions on issues from trustees following architect's report.

**This evening's workshop is intended to review and discuss five basic areas noted in the architect's report, view preliminary sketches of possible scenarios to meet those needs and hear public comment and suggestions on these issues. Specific decisions on components of a future facilities proposal for voter consideration will occur at school board meetings through March, 2002.**

***UPDATE ON DISCUSSIONS WITH Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES***

Mr. Havens noted discussion at a prior meeting about the possibility of a new lease with BOCES to meet their classroom needs and develop revenue to support local facilities needs. He has had conversations with BOCES officials and it now appears that they are pursuing a different approach to meet their needs.

***FINANCIAL PROSPECTS***

Mr. Havens noted that he attended a state-wide superintendent's meeting this past weekend and learned that there are no good prospects for additional aid for schools in the **Fiscal 2003 state budget**. In light of changing economic conditions, it appears we will need to approach any facilities issues with caution; there are some things we need to do, some things we wish to do and some we would like to do.

He noted that the district does have a **capital reserve fund** that could support the local share of a small capital project without having an impact on the local tax rate.

**He noted that he and Mr. Atseff are continuing discussions with Coca-Cola and Pepsi on proposals for pouring rights at local schools as another possible financial option.**

A. **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS • TOPICS RAISED BY TRUSTEES**

Mr. Havens reviewed the questions submitted by trustees, generally summarized as follows:

**Classroom for Each Teacher:** At this time, likely to happen; future program or space needs could modify

**Technology Support in Any New Classrooms:** Network cabling, monitors and equipment for each classroom would become part of a proposed facilities project.

**Cost for Code/Structure Compliance @ Ontario Elementary School:** Needs for roof, window and other mechanical repairs would occur whether or not the school houses students; cost for any other renovations would depend on designated uses (e.g. office space, special programs) and could become part of any lease with a new user of space

**Operating Cost for Ontario Elementary School:** Data provided by Mr. Atseff showed this school costs the least of all existing buildings for natural gas and at the average for electricity. Three-story building with thick walls favorable for low heating costs. [As an FYI, Mr. Atseff noted that Freewill Elementary School is the most costly for consumption of natural gas] (data based on sq. ft. calculations)

**Possible Non-Classroom Uses of Ontario Elementary School if Ontario Primary School Expanded to house Grades K to 5:** Numerous possible uses; could meet current needs for district office space (release space for high school use), area for district-wide tech (computer) support, space for *Hopeworks*, GED, tutoring, possible rental to a pre-school provider or use as a district pre-school site; possible municipal or community uses

**Obstacles from NYS Ed Dept for Non-Student Use of Ontario Elementary School:** None. Many districts have/are sold/selling and/or made different uses of school buildings.

**Additional Adult Rest Rooms In Any New Space:** None at present; good suggestion to include.

**Pre-K Programs in New Space:** Space for a full-day kindergarten program is desired first; may wish to consider that need and pre-kindergarten space if additional space is proposed

**End of Asbestos Concerns:** Probably not; all visible needs addressed; renovations may reveal new areas for needed work

**Key Card Staff Entry Multiple Sites:** No system in place at present; could include in proposed new facilities issue (e.g. access by staff from any parking lot)

Mr. Anderson noted a key card system would also provide data on staff who are in a facility in an emergency.

**Would Pool @ Middle School Solve Group Seating Issue:** Architect has proposed an option to construct a new gym at the middle school and build an auditorium or pool in old gym space; complicated by extensive uses of basement level, would require reassign them first and cost to reinstall large amount of piping in that area.

Mr. Wyse noted that state aid is maximized when renovations are made within an existing footprint of a structure. He asked where the best location for a pool in terms of public access and maximum educational value. The general response was the middle school or younger where it is important to provide water safety instruction.

**Additional Team Costs of A Pool:** Before new swim teams are formed district would need to fill out existing teams and add items such as modified football, modified boys' volleyball, jayvee cheerleading, jayvee golf. Low equipment costs for a swim team; cost for coaches, and travel to events, appx. \$30,000, depending on scope of program.

**Staff Involvement/Ownership of New Space:** Once school board decides scope of project(s), staff involvement is essential and would occur.

**Infrastructure Items – Roadways, Drainage, Power:** Would occur after final location of any new facilities is determined

**Limit Discussion/Set Direction on Pool:** Included this evening with intent to seek specific direction on this topic.

Mr. Anderson asked if the district has use of classrooms in the future now leased to Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES, would we have space to provide programs for all of our students with special needs now placed at BOCES at one of our schools. Mr. Havens stated that, depending on program needs, it appears we do. We now have 18 students enrolled in BOCES-operated classes housed in leased facilities on the Ontario Center campus.

Mr. Anderson noted that a year ago, the Board of Education made a commitment that none of our students would travel outside of the district for programs

Mr. Wyse asked the architect if his cost estimates for athletic fieldwork included re-located current scoreboard to a new field. Mr. Liebert feels sufficient funds are included. Mr. Atseff, and Mr. Davis, director of facilities, reviewed details. The former scoreboard was kept when replaced and could serve a role on a second varsity field.

*B. CONSOLIDATION OF ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS*

Mr. Havens reviewed factors associated with a proposal to add classroom space to Ontario Primary School to

- (1) serve all students in grades K to 5 in the Ontario Elementary/Ontario Primary School attendance area, or
- (2) consolidate all students in grades K to 5, including students now assigned to the Freewill Elementary attendance area, in new space added at Ontario Primary School

He noted the proposal includes several advantages to enhance the educational program: staff development programs, increased coordination and communication among all teachers of common grade, district-wide, opportunity to balance class sizes, parents visit and stop at single school, some savings with maintenance, and combination of varied support services (maintenance, custodial, food service)

He added that since BOCES appears to have taken another approach to meet their classroom needs, the potential rental revenue to support additional classroom space for this proposed consolidation seems unlikely.

Mr. Liebert presented sketches of proposed additions to Ontario Primary School that would accommodate consolidation of grades K to 5. If all K to 5 classes, district-wide, were taught in one building, it would result in a school of appx. 1,200 children. Discussion noted the benefits of common areas for food service, physical education, music, art, auditorium and mechanical equipment that would exist in a consolidated facility.

Mr. Ratcliffe asked what cost differences led BOCES to pursue another option than a new lease with our district. Mr. Havens noted that the alternative that BOCES appears to have chosen is for rental of an existing vacant school building, readily available, at a substantially less cost than a lease with our district.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Anderson asked what the local taxpayer share would represent if space were added to Ontario Primary School to create a single K to 5 school for the existing Ontario Primary - Ontario Elementary attendance area. Mr. Havens stated appx. \$45 million over 30 years.

Mr. Griswold asked what an expense of that amount would mean to the annual budget. Mr. Havens stated about \$350,000 or an appx. 3% increase in taxes each year, less any rental income. Mr. Griswold asked what amount is available in the capital reserve fund: Mr. Havens stated appx. \$700,000.

Mr. Atseff reviewed the new state regulations on amortization of school construction projects.

Mrs. Brunner asked how courtyards are incorporated in the proposed sketches. Mr. Liebert noted they can provide natural light and avoid long, expensive corridors. Mr. Anderson noted a neighboring district that used a former courtyard for a new media-center.

Mr. Wyse asked if courtyards pose more of a challenge or expense for maintenance. Mr. Davis stated that low maintenance design and construction of courtyards is possible.

Mrs. Brunner asked about space to re-locate playgrounds if additions were made at Ontario Primary School and about the proximity to property lines near Ontario Elementary School. Mr. Havens noted that the property border on the east and south of Ontario Elementary School would prevent expansion but there is substantial district-owned land south and west of Ontario Primary School.

Mrs. Lyke asked how a consolidated K to 5 building might look. Mr. Liebert reviewed possible clustering or school within a school options in such a facility.

Mr. Anderson asked if such a facility would require additional staff. Mr. Havens reviewed how staff might be assigned in such a facility

Mr. Griswold stated it appears that establishing a single, district-wide attendance area for Grades K to 5 would cost appx twice the amount to consolidate Ontario Elementary School and Ontario Primary School into a single K to 5 school. He also observed that a new, district-wide K to 5 facility would eliminate future expenses for needed repairs, additional auditorium space and access for disabled persons at Ontario Elementary School.

### *C. TRAFFIC FLOW @ ONTARIO CENTER CAMPUS*

Mr. Havens noted that traffic congestion along Route 350 is a long-term issue. In addition to prior proposals for highway and driveway modifications, changes in scheduling of bus arrival and discharge and loading are also possible options to reduce this congestion.

Mr. Atseff commented that the ad hoc facilities committee report suggested options of an alternate or modified entry to the high school and a campus roadway to remove traffic from public highways.

During the recent holiday recess, he, Mr. Prince, transportation manager, and Mr. Adriaansen, head mechanic, explored some new options for bus arrival and departure times and reducing bus and motorist traffic. The congestion is especially great in the morning as busses enter and leave and staff and students arrive at the high school and middle school.

They explored splitting the arrival of busses between the high and middle school and more use of the south entry to the high school. When the lease with BOCES ends, the school district would have greater access through present BOCES entry points. They are continuing to refine and consider options to address the congestion and safety issues that the present situation poses.

(Mr. Johnson entered the meeting @ 8:05 p.m.)

Mr. Havens stated that experimentation with some of these options, and others, may occur prior to the end of the lease with BOCES.

Mr. Liebert stated that his office has not made any design or cost estimates until internal operational modifications are explored.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Anderson noted the continuing problem of landlocked access to Ontario Primary School if an emergency occurred at Ontario Elementary School. This safety factor is a major reason why an inter-campus roadway is essential.

Mrs. Brunner asked about the possibility of a traffic control signal at the high school that is prompted by a pressure sensitive pad in the high school driveway to handle traffic entering and leaving the parking lots. Mr. Liebert stated that would require approval by the NYS Dept. of Transportation. Mrs. Brunner noted that part of the facilities issue is to enter into negotiations with the Dept of Transportation on these issues once the final facilities plans are in place. She also noted that an inter-campus roadway is also essential to provide access to expand parking spaces at the schools and to serve present and future athletic facilities.

Mr. Anderson suggested consideration of a east-west connector roadway from Rte. 350 to Ontario Primary and Ontario Elementary Schools thru the southern portion of district-owned land on the Ontario Center campus.

Mrs. Lyke asked if roadway work is eligible for state aid. Mr. Liebert noted that portions of a roadway could become eligible as parts of building improvement or repairs. Mrs. Lyke stated that safety is a large factor and suggested including it as part of any rationale for roadway aid.

Mr. Wyse noted that the area along the north boundary from the high school to Ontario Primary & Elementary Schools is traditionally wet and asked if drainage work was considered as part of the roadway expense. Mr. Liebert stated that soil tests would provide additional data. Mr. Atseff noted that cost estimates in

the facilities study are for an internal roadway from the middle school to the high school, only, at this point, at estimated cost of \$1 million.

#### *D. ATHLETIC FIELDS*

Mr. Havens noted the needs o replace the existing cinder track with an all season surface, for additional spectator seating, a new press box and rotating wear on fields are issues reviewed in this area.

Mr. Liebert reviewed the sketches for track improvements and creation of a second field for varsity team competition. Mr. Blankenberg, director of athletics, reviewed the pros and cons of renovations of the current Porray Field and development of a second varsity field. Reduced turf wear, practice sites, game times and overall scheduling changes relate directly to the availability of fields.

He also noted the turf damage that occurs with the existing dual use by varsity football and soccer teams on Porray Field. He also noted the excellent efforts of district maintenance staff to maintain district fields.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Robusto asked if cost estimates in the report include lights, press box and bleachers; Mr.. Liebert stated they do.

Mrs. Brunner suggested use of a tax map or survey map and some topographical maps to provide more detail about the size and condition of now vacant land on the Ontario Center campus as we explore other possible future uses of school property. Mr. Liebert noted that they are gathering property survey data to help in planning drainage, outdoor rest rooms and additional parking areas and to complete SEQR forms.

Mrs. Brunner suggested that discussions about field improvements also include long-range plans for items such as tractors, maintenance staffing, and related items.

Mr. Ratcliffe asked about advantages of an 8-lane or 5-lane track. Mr. Blankenberg provided details.

Mr. Havens asked what the estimated cost is for a 6 or 8 lane all season track. Mr. Liebert stated \$1.6 to \$1.8 million.

Mr. Robusto asked about the life expectancy of an all weather track. Mr. Liebert stated it can vary depending on maintenance efforts.

Mr. Anderson asked how often and how costly treatment is for an all-weather track; Mr. Liebert stated about \$20,000 to \$50,000 every 5 years.

Mr. Griswold asked about costs for development of a second varsity field. Mr. Liebert stated it varies with the nature of renovations or new improvements or relocation of any current field use.

Mr. Wyse noted that field wear and tear is different for football and for soccer and that the mix and match of both users on the existing single field poses the greatest turf damage.

Mrs. Brunner asked about drainage methods for all-weather tracks. Mr. Liebert provided details.

**V. RECESS:** 8:32 p.m.

**VI. RECONVENE:** 8:45 p.m.

**VII. DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS • CAPITAL FACILITIES ISSUES (continued)**

#### *A. SCIENCE CLASSROOMS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL*

Mr. Havens stated that he and other school officials encouraged the architect to suggest additional areas where renovation or repairs might occur. The architect's report cited the

scattered location of science classrooms and labs in the high school and the new state graduation requirements for science credits.

Mr. Liebert displayed sketches of proposed relocation of science rooms to a new common area with larger sized classrooms. The proposed space is adjacent to math and technology classrooms in line with new state requirements in those areas. He added that this new construction would generate state building aid

Mr. Havens asked how costs to renovate current classrooms for additional science space compared to new construction. Mr, Liebert offered some examples.

Mr. Wyse asked how many classrooms this would add; Mr, Liebert stated eight (8).

Mr. Triou expressed his support for location of science classrooms in a common area.

Mrs. Lyke noted that science classroom improvements are way overdue at the high school.

#### *B. SWIMMING POOL*

Mr. Havens noted that a substantial amount of discussion has occurred on the possibility of a swimming pool. He suggested that trustees consider bringing the issue to closure this evening to aid in final planning of facilities needs since a pool would occupy a substantial portion of any proposals.

Mr. Liebert displayed possible locations of a pool at Ontario Primary School, the middle school or the high school, each including a new structure compared to renovations within the existing building footprint. He also reviewed state aid levels for a pool at each location.

Mr. Ratcliffe noted that a pool at the middle school does not solve the problem of current gym space at that school.

Mrs. Brunner asked about the impact of soil conditions on location of a pool. Mr. Liebert stated that soil and water table exploration has not yet occurred.

Mr. Wyse asked the pleasure of trustees on scheduling public comment on the pool issue. By **consensus**, trustees agreed to establish a separate comment time following this presentation.

Mr. Anderson suggested care in location of public access to proposed pool sites.

Mr. Johnson asked how parking needs were addressed if a pool is located at the high school. Mr. Liebert noted some alternatives exist south and east of the building.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT • SWIMMING POOL PROPOSAL**

A. Laura Loomis, 7736 Tamarack Lane, Ontario, asked about the net local tax impact of a swimming pool. Mr. Liebert offered details on varied options selected for a pool location.

B. Nancy Anderson, 6803 Lakeside Road, Ontario, stated she has learned that there is still a possibility that BOCES would consider a new classroom lease with Wayne Central School District. She encouraged the Board of Education to reconsider possibilities for a new lease and the revenues it could produce to help offset facilities improvements.

C. Mrs. Anderson, supra, encouraged trustees to carefully consider the location of any common entry to a pool, gym and auditorium in terms of large spectator events on common dates.

D. Bill Welker, 5436 Ontario Center Road, Ontario (Town of Walworth), asked if the school district has yet captured a budget number for liability insurance for a swimming pool. Mr. Havens stated no.

E. Kim Wernert, 312 Berg Road, Ontario, asked if a pool would be more for academic, competition or community use and if the school district would provide swim wear for physical education swim classes. Mr. Havens stated he expects that a pool would



serve each of those interests and that parents would provide swim wear for physical education class.

- F. Mrs. Loomis, supra, asked the school board to continue to explore various options for a pool. She noted the value of a pool for health and wellness as well as teaching swimming skills and noted that six school districts in the county have pools. She also feels that use and membership fees could offset liability and maintenance expenses
- G. Mrs. Loomis, supra, noted that many residents do support a pool and encouraged the school board to leave the final answer on a pool to residents.
- H. Norman R. Loomis, M.D., retired, noted that swimming is a life-long activity for persons of all ages and would result in full utilization by the community.
- I. Marian Mazura, 1981Ridge Road, Ontario, noted she had heard comments last spring about a joint effort with the town on a pool; Mr. Havens noted that such efforts are still under review.
- J. Craig Connelly, 734 Jacobs Road, Macedon, a student at the high school, stated that a pool would make students feel better about their school; he stated that students would find many ways to make constructive use of a pool
- K. Roy E. Herrmann, Jr., 6623 Furnace Road, Ontario, stated that the school district and community have considered a pool for over 30 years and feels there is now substantial support in the community for such a project; he favors a pool and feels this community should have one.
- L. Dave Pannepinto, 5492 Ontario Center Road, Ontario, asked the school board to consider which school building would best suit the educational program for a pool; Mr. Havens stated that the middle school is the best site from a physical education point of view and the high school from an athletic point of view. Younger children would also have use of a pool as part of their physical education program at either location
- M. Cathy Contino, 2754 Daansen Road, Palmyra, president of the Wayne Teachers' Association, noted that in the sixties and seventies, students from elementary schools were bussed to the country club pool for swim lessons as part of physical education classes and a pool would allow reinstatement of such a program.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Robusto asked at what level swimming instruction would begin and noted that he views a pool as a school-community partnership. He suggested expanding into a health facility with membership fees to help with upkeep. Mr. Havens stated swim instruction would begin at the primary levels and noted the membership fee concept was explored when school and town officials visited the new community pool and fitness center in Red Creek CSD.

Mrs. Lyke sees a pool as a joint school-community effort and is hearing a large amount of positive feedback for a pool from the community. She is still uncertain of the best location for a pool.

Mr. Ratcliffe stated he supports a pool and commented that the lowest cost for a pool is at the high school as part of relocating science classrooms and making other improvements at that school.

Mr. Griswold stated he is supportive of a pool but noted once built, it would prompt an annual increase in the school taxes of 3% of the 4% maximum total tax levy increase the school board traditionally sets. This would leave 1% to meet educational and program needs. He advised trustees to carefully consider all factors as this issue is decided.

Mr. Triou stated he does not feel we are close to closure on a pool and it needs to fit into the total picture of school facilities. He views the cost for a pool about the same with or without a science wing, which he also supports, and would locate a pool where we need the most new construction. He feels the school board should not rule out possible revenues from a new lease with BOCES.

Mr. Anderson stated that any life saved by swimming lessons is worth the investment in a pool. He noted that persons from age 6 to 86 would use a pool and it needs to be a community-school project.

Mrs. Brunner noted her experience with outdoor and indoor swimming facilities in her hometown and her high school. She favors locating a pool at the high school, presenting a pool as a separate proposition for voter consideration, and encourages as much community participation as possible in development of a pool proposal. Having worked in a physician's office, she also recognizes the value of a pool for physical therapy and rehabilitation. She feels the school board has gone as far as it can on this issue and favors resolving it and moving on to other educational topics.

Mr. Johnson stated he favors making our district a first class setting in all aspects and that a pool must be a joint effort between Walworth, Ontario and the school district. He prefers location of a pool at the high school and to have community leaders help develop plans. He feels it is important for the school district to clearly explain proposals and costs for a pool and to provide residents the opportunity to decide if they wish to spend the funds for a pool. He added that he feels the issue needs closure.

Mr. Wyse expressed concern about the impact of a pool on the tax levy. For many years, the school board has worked to keep annual tax levy increases at no more than 4% and a pool would consume 3% of such a levy at the start of each budget cycle before any educational matters are considered. If a pool is pursued, the only way he supports it is as a separate issue for the voters to consider. He would not link a pool to another issue that would result in loss of educational space or programs. He is also concerned about continual maintenance costs of a pool.

Regarding a new lease with BOCES, he noted it took prior school boards 2.5 years to decide to end the agreement in 2004 and he feels the decision on future leases with BOCES was decided and resolved last year. He does not want to enter this school board into any decision that would require another 2.5 years for cancellation in the future.

Mr. Wyse added that the district needs to fully support existing athletic programs (e.g. modified and jayvee teams noted earlier by Mr. Havens) or facilities (e.g. cinder track unable to host home meets) before they start new ones for swimming.

Mr. Wyse asked the pleasure of trustees on **future direction for the pool issue.**

Mr. Anderson offered a **MOTION** to present the proposal for a swimming pool as a separate proposition at the May school election. Mr. Johnson offered a second.

Mr. Robusto asked how we would approach a proposed pool as a joint school-community facility with membership fees. Mr. Havens stated he plans to meet with Walworth and Ontario town supervisors and recreation directors to pursue these issues.

Mr. Griswold stated that we need to develop cost estimates to present to voters for consideration.

Mr. Wyse asked if trustees feel they have sufficient information to consider the current motion. He sees a need for more firm cost estimates before deciding this issue. In the meantime, trustees could give direction to the superintendent of schools of its intention to present the issue for voter consideration.

Mr. Anderson stated that nine (9) trustees spoke this evening in favor of presenting a pool to voters for their consideration.

Mr. Wyse is concerned that there are no dollar figures. Mr. Anderson stated that cost estimates would evolve as the project is developed and the final location of a pool would determine the local share of the project.

On the question, the vote was 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, Carried.

Mr. Havens clarified that he would pursue cost estimates and details of a pool with the architect and explore joint school and community efforts with town officials.

Mrs. Loomis thanked trustees for all their research and work and for their support of presenting the issue for community consideration.

(Mr. Ratcliffe left the meeting @ 9:45 p.m.)

C. *TIMEFRAME FOR FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS*

Mr. Havens noted that the original intent was to conclude review and discussion of facilities items by the second meeting in March (March 27<sup>th</sup>) and determine items for presentation to the public. He asked if that it still realistic.

Mr. Liebert noted that state law now requires that school districts serve as lead agency under SEQR and handle all of the steps and declarations for a project. The State Education Department now requires that school districts obtain SEQR authorization before presenting capital projects for voter consideration and strongly recommends that school boards not set a referendum date until that approval is in place.

He added that as the scope of a proposed project increases the amount of time for preparing information for the SEQR process also increases. He is uncertain if this can occur by the end of March.

Mr. Havens suggested maintaining the March 27<sup>th</sup> date for development of preliminary plans and set a referendum date appropriate to the SEQR process.

Mrs. Brunner clarified that we need SEQR review done before we adopt a resolution for a vote date; Mr. Liebert stated yes.

Mr. Anderson asked how long the SEQR process would take; Mr. Liebert stated app sixty (60) days, depending on the "type" of action the project is considered under SEQR laws.

Mrs. Lyke stated she concurs with the intent to seek a first-class environment for our students. She does feel, however, that we need more information and staff input about the educational aspects of potential K to 5 consolidation.

Mrs. Brunner envisions district and building administrators working with staff and the architect on program details. She also favors an advisory committee of one or two staff members from each building to work with the superintendent of schools to keep two-way communications open and provide a forum for discussion of options involved in a final project.

Mr. Griswold asked when the school board would see the final scope of a proposed facilities project.

Mr. Johnson suggested establishing a final date to accomplish this.

Mrs. Lyke and Mr. Wyse noted that it is also necessary to have more specific cost estimates before any final decisions are made on proposals for public consideration.

Mr. Havens summarized by noting the need to provide pros and cons about consolidation of grades K to 5 in a single site, more specific cost estimates for any components of a capital project and more input from staff.

Mr. Anderson suggested including travel time for students to and from Walworth residences to a consolidated K to 5 school on the Ontario Center campus.

Mr. Wyse suggested that trustees consider the maximum dollar amount of a proposed capital project that they feel the community would support for discussion by the next school board meeting to set some direction for final facilities proposal.

Mrs. Brunner would like to know how much state aid is expected.

Mr. Johnson stated we need to explore all the options to address facilities needs; we need to do it once and do it correctly.

Mr. Griswold stated his fear that we will "kick the tires" and decide we can not afford the model we desire.

Mr. Wyse concurred with the notion of do the work once, correctly, and move on.

Mr. Griswold cautioned that the costs and scope of a final, acceptable proposal may only include the "must haves" in our facilities report and not the "should haves" and "like to haves."

Mr. Havens stated it would take five (5) years from time of voter authorization until final completion and use of facilities.

## B. VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wyse noted that school board meetings are meetings conducted in public, not public meetings. The Board of Education devotes a portion of the agenda to time for public comment and responses require the action of the total school board. The Board of Education encourages public participation and requests that each speaker provide their name, address, group(s) they represent (if any), and the topic(s) they wish to address.

A. Deborah Germain, 4314 Cream Ridge Road, Macedon, noted that she served on the ad hoc committee as a taxpayer, a parent, an alumna and town recreation/parks director, She expressed concern that she has heard nothing this evening about the safety issues the ad hoc committee cited and many of the items noted tonight had a lower priority from the committee. She encouraged the school board not to forget educational issues or efforts to retain staff members and provide staff development. She noted her personal experience from her father's swimming accident at a young age and does support a pool but noted that the state share of school construction really is taxes from local residents as well and cautioned consideration of the current economic climate.

Dave Pannipinto, 5492 Ontario Center Road, Ontario, encouraged the school board to bring order to the factors involved in the facilities issues and get the most in the state share of final projects as presented for voter consideration.

Cathy Contino, supra, asked why the cafetorium seating issue at Freewill Elementary School is not included in these discussions and asked if trustees had considered reconfiguring the grade structure to K to 4 and 5 to 8 in line with state standards and to make best use of staff of common grade levels in the same school setting.

Craig Connelly, 734 Jacobs Road, Macedon, a high school student, encouraged the school board to include students in their efforts to build a pool. He noted that the students raised \$3,000 in one week for the Red Cross and could contribute a lot more, from their own earnings, in a year's time. Mr. Wyse commended Craig on how well he presented his comments this evening.

Jim Link, 6499 Lakeside Road, Ontario. a sophomore, noted that a pool provides many opportunities for students, families and residents and that more and larger science classrooms and labs at the high school are a must.

Matthew Mazura, 1981 Ridge Road, Ontario, commended Mr. Havens for his advice to use care and creativity in potential facilities issues. He noted that as a teacher he feels students succeed more in a smaller environment and those large, consolidated settings do not always work best. He suggested that the school board has yet to consider any cons about a consolidation of grades K to 5 in a single site. He also noted that the Ontario Elementary School building is a treasure in which the community has invested heavily and has great significance for many resident-alumna. As a taxpayer, he feels we have a state of the art school in place and that we should seek solutions to the disabled access and assembly space as part of the recommendation for a larger gymnasium. Thousands of people are proud to have attended that school over the past 76 years and have very successfully met the inscription at the school entry of "enter to learn, go forth to serve."

Mark Brewer, 6183 Furnace Road, Ontario, asked the school board to consider the financial implications on annual debt service when determining the scope of a capital project. If, for some reason, the STAR exemption is discontinued by the state legislature, local residents would face a 20% to 30% tax increase. He sees value in a pool and favors having first-class facilities for our students and community but is also concerned about present and future financial impact on local residents and property owners.

Nancy Anderson, supra, asked what direction the school board will give to the superintendent of schools to continue to explore a classroom lease with BOCES as revenue for facilities needs. Mr. Wyse stated that the issue of a new BOCES lease was decided and is no longer under consideration. Mrs. Anderson stated her view that the public never determined that in a vote and she is still unsure of the direction given by the school board on this issue. Mr. Wyse again stated that the BOCES lease issue is closed.

Cathy Contino, supra, cautioned the school board to prevent a situation where a pool is approved and other facilities needs are not. Mr. Liebert noted that proposition wording could prevent that.

Cathy Connelly, 734 Jacobs Road, Macedon, noted that students spend a significant amount of time at school for classes and events and her main concern is to provide services and an environment that is an incentive for learning.

#### IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel) (Withdrawn)

Mr. Robusto offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting, at 10:17 p.m., for an executive session on personnel matters pertaining to specific persons.

Mr. Griswold asked to defer the executive session to allow time for board member comments while members of the audience are present. By consensus, trustees concurred. Mr. Robusto withdrew his **MOTION**.

#### X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Mr. Griswold noted the large number of public comments this evening and feels it is valuable and important to hear this input. He encouraged trustees to consider the “**bottom line**” **cost** to the taxpayer of facilities projects. He suggested that the school board begin soon to survey the community on the amount they would support for facilities issues. He suggested a separate committee to discuss details and present information to trustees.
- B. Mr. Griswold stated that he does not want to move away from the small **size of our elementary schools** to a large, district-wide K-5 school.
- C. Mrs. Lyke stated that the school board should seek **input from students** in advanced government class on their views of a consolidated, district-wide K-5 school, since they experienced the current K-2, 3-5 and K-5 structure at Ontario Primary/Ontario Elementary and Freewill Elementary Schools.
- D. Mr. Robusto stated he would want **input on items** such as consolidation of grades K to 5 and other facilities items from parents and students and expressed his personal view in opposition to the K to 5-consolidation concept.
- E. Mr. Wyse stated he has concerns with the **costs of a consolidated K to 5 school**.

#### XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel)

Mr. Robusto offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting, at 10:20 p.m., for an executive session on personnel matters pertaining to specific persons. 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

#### XII. RECONVENE: 10:46 p.m.

#### XIII. BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Wyse extended an apology to Mrs. Anderson for his treatment during public comment and clarified that the superintendent of schools was given direction by the school board to look at options with BOCES in possible future facilities projects.

#### XIV. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS

##### A. PERSONNEL CHANGE

Mr. Havens presented the following personnel action for review and consideration by the Board of Education.

##### *Resignation*

**Michael Catalano**, bus driver, effective January 14, 2002 (personal reasons)

Mr. Griswold offered a **MOTION** to approve the personnel action as recommended by the superintendent of schools. 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

#### XV. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Wyse presented a tentative agreement on an employment contract with the superintendent of schools for review and consideration by the Board of Education. He stated that the Board of Education and superintendent of schools have reached agreement on terms, pending final wording changes by the school attorney.

Mr. Johnson offered a **MOTION**, second by Mrs. Brunner, to adopt a **RESOLUTION** to approve an employment contract the with superintendent of schools, **TO WIT:**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT  
BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND MICHAEL L. HAVENS  
AS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment contract with Michael L. Havens as superintendent of schools for the period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2007, and authorizes the school board president to execute said agreement on behalf of the Board of Education, pending approval by the school attorney.

On the question, the **RESOLUTION** was approved by a vote of 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (Mr. Ratcliffe). Trustees extended congratulations to Mr. Havens. Mr. Havens expressed his gratitude to the Board of Education for their confidence in him.

#### XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Triou offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m. 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (Mr. Ratcliffe), Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

**JAMES E. SWITZER**  
School District Clerk

APPROVAL OF  ES

The foregoing minutes of the Board of Education were submitted for review & (approved as presented)(corrected as noted) at the meeting of

**January 23, 2002**

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School District Clerk