

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2011
ANNEX BOARD ROOM – 7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District was held in the Annex Board room, located in the village of Holland Patent, New York on Wednesday, April 6, 2011. Board President Mrs. McGahey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anne McGahey, President
Karen Evans, Vice President
Traci Boris
Everett Stalker
Richard Allen
Samantha Grogan
Kathleen M. Davis, Superintendent of Schools
Louis D'Ambro, Assistant Superintendent
Wendy A. Lloyd, District Clerk

ALSO PRESENT

Nancy Nowicki
John Egresits
John Bubb
Kristin Casab
Allen Hyde
Matthew Lee
Charles Pratt
Todd Richard
Cheryl Venettozzi
Chris Roberts
Dennis Geer

VISITORS

22

10-229

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on March 16, 2011.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

10-230

POSITIVE THOUGHTS

Mrs. Davis noted that the district received the Titanium Level School Safety Excellence Award from the Utica National Insurance Group for our outstanding efforts to create a safer school environment, as a direct result of the district's diligence and adherence to safety principles prescribed to Safety Group members. Mrs. Davis specifically thanked Dennis Geer who spearheaded the safety efforts for the district.

Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Davis received an e-mail from technology teacher Douglas Andrews thanking her for allowing the students and Mr. Andrews to attend a field trip on March 10, 2011 to the Mohawk Valley Technology Education and Pre-Engineering Showcase held at SUNYIT. Four students participated in the CAD Engineering Design Competition. The competition was comprised of students from Adirondack, New Hartford, Whitesboro, Oneida, Westmoreland and Utica. Holland Patent swept the awards as we earned medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition. The designs were judged and evaluated by a panel of Engineers and SUNYIT Instructors. The names of the schools and students were not made known to the judges so that there would be complete impartiality when making their decisions. Mr. Andrews is very excited for these kids. Big things are in the works for their future. All of them are only 9th graders but they think at a level beyond that. Their overall goal is to attend college and major in Engineering so that they may ultimately become Engineers. Thanks for allowing us the opportunity during these tough times.

General William Floyd Elementary Principal Kristin Casab wrote a letter to Sue Coville thanking her for presenting the PARP kick-off and Family Fun Night to the Board of Education on March 16, 2011.

Resident Chris Hoke wrote a letter to English teacher Carol Moseman regarding the Holland Patent National Honor Society and their efforts with the 3rd annual "Remembering the Irish Famine" Food Drive held during the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Utica.

General William Floyd Elementary Principal Kristin Casab wrote a letter to Deputy Dan Brown thanking him for taking the time to come to General William Floyd Elementary and give a presentation on bullying, harassment and internet safety to our fifth grade students.

Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Geer and Athletic Custodian Craig Ueltschi wrote a memo to John Richard thanking him for inviting them to the Wrestling Banquet and for honoring Bob Miglin.

Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance Louis D'Ambro and Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Geer wrote a memo to Michael Gillett, Jeff Cardinal, Robert Shepard, Kyle Kennerknecht, Craig Ueltschi, John Brown, Robert Miglin, Julie Rees, Richard Riley, Bill Pelton, Robert Stropp, Mark Wengert, Gary Lichtenberger, Joseph Bessmer, Shelley Kirkland, Thomas Shepard, Harold Furman, Richard Jones, Harold Williams, Diana Knutti, and Richard Helmer for the great job they have done this winter with snow removal in the parking lots, sidewalks, and building entrances.

Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Geer wrote a memo to Robert Shepard, Kyle Kennerknecht, Craig Ueltschi, and Michael Gillett thanking them for a job well done preparing for the Jr. High Music Festival.

Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Geer wrote a memo to John Brown, Julie Rees, William Pelton, Richard Riley, and Robert Stropp for a job well done preparing for the Jr. High Music Festival.

Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Geer wrote a memo to Transportation Supervisor Chris Roberts and bus driver Dina Johnson thanking them for providing shuttle service for people who attended the Jr. High Music Festival.

Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Davis received a letter from Madison-Oneida BOCES Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Patricia Vacca thanking Mrs. Davis for her participation as a presider at the Education Leadership Mohawk Valley GOAL Conference held on March 17, 2011.

10-231

REVIEW OF UPCOMING DATES

April 7, 2011	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 11:00 a.m. Dismissal High School Transition Day, 6 – 8 p.m. Middle School Academic Fair, 6:30 p.m.
April 8, 2011	30 Week Marking Period High School Cabaret, 7:30 p.m.
April 9, 2011	High School Cabaret, 7 p.m.
April 11, 2011	GWF Concert, 6:30 p.m. Grades 2 and 4, High School Auditorium
April 12, 2011	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 11:00 a.m. Dismissal
April 13, 2011	HPE PTA Meeting, 3:45 p.m. GWF PTA Meeting, 4:00 p.m. HPE Concert, Grades 2 & 4, High School Auditorium
April 18 – 25, 2011	Spring Recess
April 22, 2011	Good Friday – Holiday!
April 26, 2011	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 11:00 a.m. Dismissal Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m. Annex Board Room

VISITORS

Mrs. Hillary Gibbons read a letter to the board regarding the number of administrators.

Mrs. McGahey thanked Mrs. Gibbons for her time.

Mrs. Lucason read a letter to the board regarding the budget and urged the board to make decisions responsible to the children's education first and the taxpayer second.

Mrs. McGahey thanked Mrs. Lucason.

Mr. Allen thanked Mrs. Lucason for coming. However, he noted that we have added a number of AP classes and educational programs. Mr. Allen asked Mrs. Lucason if she had a particular concern.

Mrs. Lucason reiterated the education of our children, adding new sports programs to a shrinking school district, and not consolidating duties.

Dr. Stalker asked what programs she was referring to.

Mrs. Lucason stated adding any new sports programs at this time.

Dr. Stalker answered we are not proposing to add any sports at this time. Dr. Stalker also noted that lacrosse was not in the budget.

The district did not ultimately replace the director of the cafeteria. Staff is down because our numbers are down. We are focused on the education of our students.

Mrs. McGahey noted the district didn't cut the administrative positions and we will have to look at that in the future as enrollment continues to decline.

Mrs. Boris commented that you might be seeing new sports programs in the community. We have a number of very dedicated parents who have taken on the role of supporting athletic teams and they are raising their own funds and donating to the boosters. We will be looking at programs that we may not be able to fund in the future.

Marie Redmond asked what the enrollment was K – 12. She read an article proposed by Governor Cuomo capping the superintendent's salary and asked what is the superintendent's salary.

Mrs. Davis said that the current enrollment is 1,612. The superintendent's current salary is \$159,535.

Mr. D'Ambro indicated that the cap is based on enrollment and the range of what the salary is now. No law was passed on the cap. Mr. D'Ambro noted it is not enforced this year. Contractually all salaries are moving forward. Teachers are under contract, administrative staff, and non-instructional staff are under contract.

Mrs. Boris noted it is looked at every year.

Mrs. Boris noted it is not outrageous when you look at what other superintendents are making and the number of years in the position.

Dr. Stalker noted the superintendent is running the district like a business and she has been in the district nine years.

Ms. Redmond noted that the VVS superintendent makes \$182,000.

Mrs. Boris noted it is called an evergreen contract. It is a five year agreement, every year the agreement comes up for renewal and previous years have set certain rates of salary.

Mrs. Davis noted that she is coming off a five year contract. The contract has been extended another five years.

Ms. Redmond asked what is the percentage increase for administrative salaries.

Mrs. McGahey noted that salary and contract information is available on seethroughny.

John Powers, local farmer, wanted to make the Board aware that the farmers in the district are paying close attention to expenses and asked the district to consider holding expenses.

Mrs. McGahey said that the board agrees that we need to pay close attention to expenses. The budget has increases due to health insurance, retirement, and benefits.

Mrs. Boris noted there are ways to share ideas.

Mr. Powers stated he wants the board to show the farmers what they are getting. Mr. Powers also commented on the idea of graduates going to college.

Mr. Allen commented that we did a good job when Mr. Powers was in school and we are doing a good job now. You have basic inflation.

Mrs. Nancy Annis asked if the Board considered trying to break some of these contracts in order to renegotiate.

Mrs. McGahey answered it would very difficult to do that and probably cost as much in legal fees as it would to ask for wage concessions.

Mrs. Boris commented it is very difficult to renegotiate contracts, or to reopen contracts. This year with the economy it is something that she was thinking about. We have the benefit of the administration foresight with the reserves.

Mrs. Annis said let's give it up this year. It is about character.

Mrs. McGahey said no it's about the children.

Mrs. McGahey noted that we do appreciate everyone coming to the meeting. It takes a lot of energy and time to put a budget together. She also noted that she is pleased with the Board. We do question things and we have good discussions. There is also good foresight and the people in the community have been helpful to give us more information to go by. Please check the meeting minutes and website.

Mr. Allen stated to please access the meeting minutes and there is a lot of information on the school website.

10-233

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

10-234

BOARD FORUM

Mr. Allen was at several events this past weekend to include a concert, sports banquet, and science fair at Holland Patent Elementary. They were all great events. Glad to see all the students benefiting. We do a very good job with that.

Mr. Allen asked a question about why the clocks are not the same in all the buildings and he thought that was taken care of.

Mr. Geer stated that was taken care of. All clocks should be set for the right time. The district has several atomic clocks. He will check the clocks to make sure they are in sync to daylight savings time.

Mr. Allen stated he just wants to make sure if there is a issue on the time.

Mrs. Evans attended the Pops Concert and she felt it was one of the best concerts she has been to and the Music Department did a great a job.

Dr. Stalker asked to pull #16 Appointments from consent and to be discussed in executive session.

Mr. Allen asked to pull #6 Adoption of 2011-12 Budget from consent.

Mrs. McGahey noted there are two addendums: Resolution of Condolence and Appointment.

Dr. Stalker would like to personally thank everyone. We are going into a difficult budget year with minimal loss. He has spoken to people of other districts and noted some of these districts are in turmoil. He noted that the fact that we have a team in this district which has been great. The fact that we have been able to preserve jobs here is something to be proud of. Want to make that known that our team has something to be proud of this year. They have done some good things during this year's budget turmoil. He is very proud of this board. This is probably one board that we have collaborated very well. Mr. Allen has been great giving me different perspective from a teacher's insight, looking out for the children and being fiscally responsible. We are moving forward with minimal loss and job losses and doing the best thing for programs and children. We must try to move forward here. Things are tough out here, look around, we are lucky.

10-235 **DISTRICT UPDATE**

There was no district update.

10-236 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Boris noted that the Policy Committee met this evening and will be bringing policies to the Board for approval.

Mr. Allen noted that the Cell Phone Policy Committee met this evening.

10-237 **SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT**

The Board discussed the use of a BOCES employee versus the district hiring a cafeteria manager for the 2011-12 school year. Mrs. Davis stated the governor has restored aid making this a cost savings for the district. The cafeteria manager would be a BOCES employee. All other cafeteria staff will remain Holland Patent employees.

Mrs. Boris asked if the BOCES employee would be an experienced employee and why would we hire someone at a higher rate than what we would pay. The taxpayer will still be asked to make up the difference if it is aided by BOCES.

Mr. D'Ambro commented the individual is on the approved civil service list as a manager and is a registered dietician.

Mrs. Boris also asked what would we do if we are not satisfied with this employee.

Mr. D'Ambro noted this is a one year deal.

10-239

ALPINE SKI REQUEST

Mrs. Milissa Benincasa requested the board allow the Nordic ski team to attend ski at White Face and P. They felt if they take the top five students, each racer would be required to have their teachers sign off acknowledging that the student was in good academic good standing.

Mr. Roberts was asked to compute the charge for mileage and driver's costs.

The Alpine Ski Request will be discussed at the next board meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011.

10-238

PILOT

Gregory Benincasa of Beebe Corporation was in attendance to present a PILOT program to the Board for approval.

The Board requested further information from Mr. Benincasa regarding the term of the PILOT.

10-240

BILL SCHEDULES

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to accept for payment bill schedule #8 General Fund in the amount of \$54,808.15, for the period ending April 6, 2011 and make it a matter of record.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to accept for payment bill schedule #8 School Lunch in the amount of \$18,164.30, for the period ending April 6, 2011 and make it a matter of record.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to accept for payment bill schedule #6 Federal Funds in the amount of \$175.00, for the period ending April 6, 2011 and make it a matter of record.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to accept for payment bill schedule #8 Capital Project in the amount of \$9,516.92, for the period ending April 6, 2011 and make it a matter of record.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

10-241 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 28, 2011 and make it a matter of record.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

10-242 **ADOPTION OF 2011-12 BUDGET**

Mr. Allen stated he was very happy with this budget. He also noted that next year will be very difficult.

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to adopt the 2011-12 budget in the amount of \$28,352,495.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

10-243 **APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER S-04**
GIFT FROM THE PUBLIC
REFUND OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES
RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE
LEAVES OF ABSENCE
APPROVAL OF SENIOR CLASS TRIP TONEW YORK CITY
RESIGNATION
2010-11 CO-CURRICULAR APPOINTMENT
APPROVAL OF ATHLETIC VOLUNTEERS
HIGH SCHOOL SATURDAY REVIEW CLASS APPOINTMENTS
PRE-K SUMMER SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to approve/accept/adopt the following by consent:

Approve Change Order S-04 Boland's Excavating & Topsoil, Inc. increasing the Site Work Contract Sum in the amount of \$2,396.46.

Accept the donation of the following items from the Golden Knights Sports Booster's Club:

- 2 Stealth Bats
- 1 Thunderstick
- 1 SRV6B32/20 softball bat

- 10 purple batting helmets
- 1 SCR1B 32/22 softball bat

Total value: \$1,097.95

Approve a tax refund levied for the year 2010-11 as indicated:

Andrew Yasenovsky. – Parcel #174.000-2-15.2

School Taxes	Town		Assessment	Tax Rate	Tax	Refund
Original	Western	Original	\$95,250	\$28.7527	\$2,738.69	
Corrected	Western	Corrected	\$59,100	\$28.7527	\$1,699.28	\$1,039.41
Library Taxes						
Original	Western	Original	\$114,350	\$0.0796	\$9.10	
Corrected	Western	Corrected	\$78,200	\$0.0796	\$6.22	\$2.88

Adopt the following resolution of condolence regarding the passing of former cafeteria worker Carol Roberts:

“The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District records with sorrow the passing of former cafeteria worker Carol Roberts.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education expresses its sincere sympathy to the family Carol Roberts and that this resolution be spread upon the records of the district and a copy sent to her family.”

Adopt the following resolution of condolence regarding the passing of former treasurer Shirley Poland:

“The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District records with sorrow the passing of former treasurer Shirley Poland.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education expresses its sincere sympathy to the family Shirley Poland and that this resolution be spread upon the records of the district and a copy sent to her family.”

Approve the request of Kristine Arcuri, elementary teacher, for a leave of absence for the period of April 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7, 2011.

Approve the request of Kristine Arcuri, elementary teacher, for a leave of absence for the period of April 26 – June 24, 2011.

Approve the request of Rachel Bunker, substitute teaching assistant, for a leave of absence for the period of March 24, through to April 27, 2011.

Approve the request of Michele Feeley, bus aide, for a leave of absence for one-half day on April 12, 2011.

Approve the Senior Class Trip to New York City on June 10, 2011.

Accept the resignation of Michael Jankiewicz, teaching assistant, effective April 12, 2011.

Approve the appointment of Katelin Corbett as a chaperone for all high school athletic, dance and other events at a salary of \$60/event.

Approve the following athletic volunteers for the 2010-11 school year:

Robert Baird	Track volunteer
Jon Harter	Modified softball volunteer
Dennis Williams	Softball volunteer

Approve the appointment of Lisa Szot to the position of Algebra2/Trigonometry Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, June 4, and 11, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Lisa Szot to the position of Algebra Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30, and May 14, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Dennis Johnson to the position of Algebra Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30, May 21, and June 11, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Verna Agen to the position of Algebra Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 9 and May 7, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Richard Zacek to the position of Algebra Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 9, May 7, 14, June 4, and 11, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Katelin Corbett to the position of Algebra Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, May 21, and June 4, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Bill Locke to the position of United States History/Government Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30, May 14, 21, June 4, and 11, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Kerry Sullivan to the position of Global Studies Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, May 7, 14, June 4, and 11, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Nicole Goodelle to the position of Global Studies Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30 and May 21, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Adele Reilly to the position of Chemistry Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, and 18, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Daniel O'Bryan to the position of Chemistry Saturday Morning Review Teacher for Saturday, April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, and 18, 2011, at the rate of \$37.58/hr.

Approve the appointment of Laura Carroll to the position of Pre-K Summer School Program teacher for the period of July 12 - 29, 2011 at the rate of \$38.19/hour.

Approve the appointment of Joyce Triebel to the position of Pre-K Summer School Program teacher for the period of July 12 - 29, 2011 at the rate of \$38.19/hour.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

10-244

APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to approve the following appointments:

Approve the following substitute teachers at a per diem rate of Certified \$80 per day; Non-certified \$65 per day effective April 7, 2011:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certified Rate \$80/day</u> <u>Noncertified Rate \$65/day</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Bruce Holck	10848 French Road Remsen, NY 13438	Uncertified \$65 per diem
JamieVacheresse	Change to certified	Certified \$80 per diem

Approve the appointment of Amy Clark to the position of Registered School Nurse, 10 month position, 6.5 hours per day, Schedule A, Step 11, at the rate of \$19.77 per hour, for a probationary period of twenty-six weeks, effective May 2, 2011

AND BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the conditional appointment of Amy Clark, registered school nurse, effective May 2, 2011 be approved. The appointment is contingent upon satisfactory criminal background clearance from the Division of Criminal Justice Services and the FBI.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

10-245 **ENCLOSURES**

There were no comments on the enclosures.

10-246 **RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to approve the recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education which are on file.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

10-247 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:43 p.m., Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to take a short recess and to return in executive session to discuss appointments, negotiations, a legal issue, and the employment history of particular people.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

At 9:30 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

10-248 **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to discuss at this time, Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to adjourn the meeting.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:41 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex Board Room.

Wendy A. Lloyd
District Clerk