

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE AUSABLE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2008, PURSUANT TO NOTICE

ROLL – David Whitford, President

Mary B. Bailey, Vice President

MEMBERS – Scott Bombard, Barbara Davidson, Robert Douglas, Tonia Finnegan

ADMINISTRATION – Paul D. Savage II, Suzanne Miller, Matt Rogers, Phil Mero, Kurt Munson, Dean Lincoln, Kevin Hulbert

FACULTY & STAFF – Scott Brow, Donna Douglas, Jennifer Knapp, Denise Comins, Patricia McCartney

CALL TO ORDER – President David Whitford called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – President David Whitford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Superintendent Savage reported on the emergency go home drill that was performed at AVCS on January 11, 2008. He stated the drill was highly successful and also highlighted this was the first time the District had utilized a new emergency messaging system to contact parents/guardians regarding the drill. Superintendent Savage explained the District recently acquired the system and that it is designed to make simultaneous and instantaneous communication with parents/guardians in an emergency situation. He stated approximately 3,000 phone calls were made in a matter of a minutes and the system was a success.

Superintendent Savage stated he had received a report from Website Coordinator Matthew Smith showing the new AVCS website has received over 700,000 hits in a 5 month period and 64,000 people had visited the site during that same time period. He stated that many of the hits have come from our own daily traffic and from the website coordinator. Superintendent will share the website report and statistics at a future meeting.

Superintendent Savage reminded everyone about the upcoming Special Bus Vote on February 13, 2008, from noon to 9:00 p.m. in the MS-HS Cafeteria.

PRESENTATION/TRISHA MCCARTNEY – Superintendent Savage introduced Trisha McCartney, teacher at Keeseville Elementary School. Trisha referred to a packet of information previously distributed to Board members regarding a yoga club she had introduced to Keeseville Elementary School children in October. She said a large response was received from grades 4-6 with 60 students signing up for the class. She reviewed the information contained in the packet, which included a definition of yoga, grants received, and the various benefits of yoga to the overall success of children and adults.

VISITORS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – On motion by Barbara Davidson, seconded by Mary Bailey and carried unanimously, the Board convened in Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiated agreements.

REGULAR SESSION – President David Whitford called the meeting back to order at 7:06 p.m.

MINUTES – On motion by Mary B. Bailey, seconded by Tonia Finnegan and carried unanimously, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED, to accept the Minutes of the December 19, 2007, Regular Board Meeting, as presented.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPLICATIONS – President Whitford acknowledged the following non-instructional employment applications: Danny Barber, April Mudd

AUSABLE VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT – Jennifer Knapp and Denise Comins, Co-Presidents of the AVTA, reported the faculty was enjoying the month of state testing and believe the upcoming reports would demonstrate the fruits of their labor and hard work.

TREASURER'S REPORT – On motion by Scott Bombard, seconded by Barbara Davidson and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2007 as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACCOUNTS – On motion by Tonia Finnegan seconded by Robert Douglas and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to accept the Extracurricular Treasurer's quarterly report for the period ending December 31, 2007, as presented.

SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS – On motion by Mary B. Bailey, seconded by Barbara Davidson and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to accept the Committee on Preschool Special Education recommendations dated November 27, 2007, through December 18, 2007, and the Subcommittee on Special Education recommendations dated November 19, 2007, through December 12, 2007, as presented.

AVTA SIDE LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING - On motion by Tonia Finnegan, seconded by Scott Bombard and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to authorize the Superintendent to execute the Side Letter of Understanding regarding Supplementary Pay as presented.

BUDGET DISCUSSION AND UPDATE – Superintendent Savage reported he is anxiously awaiting the Governor's Budget Run on January 22, 2008. He had been in Albany attending a House of Delegates Meeting, NYSCOSS Meetings and a Legislative Dinner and shared with the Board and public various budget insights. Superintendent Savage stated the big issue continues to be the discussion over potential property tax caps in NY State and the new commission being formed to study such a process. He said he expects that it will be a very challenging budget year but hopes the legislators will do what is right for education. He distributed copies of the Governor's Budget Speech as well as the local school superintendent's legislative priorities position paper that was developed last week.

ACCEPT DONATION FOR SCIENCE AND HEALTH BOOKS – On motion by Tonia Finnegan, seconded by Barbara Davidson and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to accept a \$1,000 donation from Keith and Nancy Johnson for the purchase of science and health books for Keeseville Elementary School Library.

CONTRACT WITH OMNI FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. - On motion by Barbara Davidson, seconded by Tonia Finnegan and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to approve The Omni Financial Group, Inc. Contract as presented.

PERSONNEL – President Whitford asked if there were any items in the Personnel Section that Board members wished to be considered separately.

On motion by Robert Douglas, seconded by Mary B. Bailey and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to approve a consent agenda for all items in the Personnel Section except item 13G. Appointing Chairperson for Special Bus Vote.

APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE PERSONNEL

RESOLVED, to appoint the following persons as substitute personnel on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance through OSPRA, effective January 16, 2008: Nancy Morelli and Amber Smart.

ACCEPT LETTER OF INTENT FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES/HOWARD RYAN –

RESOLVED, to accept a letter of intent for retirement purposes from Howard Ryan, Bus Driver, effective July 1, 2008, per his letter dated December 12, 2007.

ACCEPT LETTER OF INTENT FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES/PAUL SAVAGE, SR.

RESOLVED, to accept a letter of intent for retirement purposes from Paul Savage, Sr., Bus Driver, effective June 30, 2008, per his letter dated January 2, 2008.

ACCEPT LETTER OF INTENT FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES/READING TEACHER/PAT RITTER

RESOLVED, to accept a letter of intent for retirement purposes from Patricia Ritter, Reading Teacher, effective July 1, 2008, per her letter dated January 7, 2008.

ACCEPT LETTER OF INTENT FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES/LIBRARIAN/JAMES REH

RESOLVED, to accept a letter of intent for retirement purposes from James Reh, Librarian, effective July 1, 2008, per his letter dated January 7, 2008.

APPOINTMENT OF FIRE INSPECTOR

RESOLVED, to appoint Allan Corron as Fire Inspector at a stipend of \$1,000.

APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR SPECIAL BUS VOTE, FEBRUARY 13, 2008

RESOLVED, to appoint the following persons as election personnel for the February 13, 2008, Special Bus Vote:

Clerks: Donna Douglas, Della Allen
Inspectors: Lottie Gillen, Genevieve Baker
Alternate Clerk/Inspector: Judy Rule, Henry Bennage

REQUEST FOR MATERNITY LEAVE/ASHLEY SMART, LPN

RESOLVED, to approve a leave of absence per the terms and conditions of the Agreement Between the AuSable Valley Central School District and the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc. 2005-2007, to Ashley Smart, LPN, as per her letter dated December 19, 2007.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON FOR SPECIAL BUS VOTE, FEBRUARY 13, 2008 – On motion by, Tonia Finnegan, seconded by Mary B. Bailey and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, to appoint Donna L. Douglas as Chairperson for the Special Bus Vote on February 13, 2008, and Barbara Davidson as Alternate Chairperson.

VISITORS – Bill Lacalio, Jay

ADJOURNED – On motion by Mary B. Bailey, seconded by Tonia Finnegan and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Douglas, Clerk
Board of Education