

**CATSKILL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Catskill, New York  
**WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**March 11, 2009**  
High School Art Room 169  
**7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** M. Bulich, J. Garafalo, R. Griffin, K. Haas (arrived at 7:03 PM), E. Holsopple, A. Jones, M. Leibowitz, L. Warner

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** C. Schilansky

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** K. Farrell, K. Lewis, D. Van Kleeck, David Shaw, Attorney and Peter Markou, Town Supervisor

The workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Garafalo and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Call to Order

There was no one who wished to address the board on agenda related issues.

Visitor Recognition

Terry Damon gave the board an update on the construction projects. He stated that for the EXCEL Phase 1, Middle School Slate Roof Replacement Project has been completed. Clean-up, lawn restoration and the repair of any other damage caused by the contractor that performed this work will be corrected and/or deducted from their contract prior to final payment being issued. For the EXCEL Phase 2, the Classroom Addition at High School was completed on time, under budget and occupied by the district as originally planned. EXCEL Phase 3, the Additions/Renovations at the front of High School/Annex: the relocation of the High School main office and guidance office were completed during February break. This allowed the main entrance to the High School to be closed on March 2<sup>nd</sup> (as originally planned). Students and staff started using the south “temporary” entrance located between the High School Music Room and Room 153. At the original High School entrance the contractors constructed hard wall barriers as required by SED regulations 155.5, installed the new (temporary) emergency exit doors in this area and abatement, demolition and continuation of the foundation work is well underway for Area C of Phase 3. Plans for the Distance Learning and Broadcast-Digital Media Studio classrooms are in the process of being finalized. For the EXCEL Phase 4, the Elementary School Improvements/Pre-K, the plans have been finalized and have been submitted to SED. This project includes, technology upgrades, minor renovations & modification required to accommodate Pre-K program and upgrades to outdoor playground.

Construction Update  
Armlin Damon &  
McMordie Report

K. Haas arrived at 7:03 PM

The Scope of the Phase 4, Referendum # 1 project is being finalized for review at the next Buildings & Grounds meeting. We had a meeting with the District & Athletic Director today to obtain additional input on the design of the Fitness Center. The district was the recipient of a donation of fitness equipment that will be incorporated into the design/construction of this project

Sammel Architects expect to receive SED approval on or about March 25<sup>th</sup> on the Middle School Art / Science Room project. The Superintendent’s Building project has been logged in at SED and Sammel Architects are awaiting SHPO approval. The Business Office project has been logged in at SED and Sammel Architects have received SHPO approval for this project. The Maintenance Building project has been logged in at SED and Sammel Architects are awaiting SHPO approval.

Dr. Farrell passed around thank you notes that the students wrote about her reading to them. Dr. Farrell gave an update on the “River of Dreams” production. She also reported that the school has remained open each night to offer a gathering place for students as needed to cope with the death of a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student. Dr. Farrell stated that local clergy and county counselors have helped the district immensely to cope with the tragic loss. Dr. Farrell stated that the district is especially appreciative of the Catskill Ecumenical Council and members of the clergy for supporting students Monday afternoon and evening immediately following the tragedy. We had 10 clinicians from Greene County Mental Health who have been invaluable for students and staff during this time of grief.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Farrell stated that she participated in a meeting at Catskill’s Second Baptist Church earlier this evening, and that the specifics of the arrangements for the services are not finalized. She stated that as of right now the viewing will be at the Second Baptist Church on upper Main Street on Friday, March 13, from 10 AM to 12 noon and 5 PM to 8 PM. There will also be a viewing on Saturday morning, from 10 AM to 11 AM followed by the service. The burial will be at the Catskill Rural Cemetery and a reception will be held afterward back at the school.

Dr. Farrell passed out three drafts 2009-2010 school year calendar for the boards review. She stated that this calendar is challenging due to where Labor Day falls this year. J. Garafalo told board members to get back to Dr. Farrell with their comments about the calendar before the next meeting.

Calendar Discussion

The board discussed the following personnel items:  
Summer School Principals  
Long-term Substitute Guidance Counselor at CMS  
Library Media Specialist

Personnel Discussion Items

Kimberly Lewis gave the board an update on the budget. She stated that the Federal Stimulus money is supposed to be used to restore the deficit from the Governor’s proposal. Ms. Lewis stated that she should have a more solid picture of the budget at the next meeting.

Budget Update

The board discussed the following items:  
Treasurer’s Report  
Minutes  
Donations  
Obsolete books  
Discussion of Vote Procedures  
Approval of Legal Notice  
Second Reading of Policies, Regulations and Exhibits

Other Discussion Items

Dr. Farrell reported that the Greene County School Boards meeting will be held on

March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Elementary School Library. There are three speakers scheduled: James Hanson, Assemblyman Peter Lopez and Senator Seward.

Future Meetings of the Board of Education are as follows:

Future Meetings

- March 18, 2009 – Building & Grounds Committee meeting – Supt. Off. – 5:30 PM
- March 25, 2009 – Policy Committee Meeting– CES Library – 6:00 PM
- March 25, 2009 – Regular Meeting– CES Library – 7:00 PM
- April 7, 2009 – Special Meeting – Possible Budget Adoption– CES Library – 7:00 PM
- April 28, 2009 - Regular Meeting - Vote on BOCES Annual Budget/Board Members - CES Library
- May 5, 2009 - Public Budget Hearing - CHS Auditorium - 7:00 PM
- May 12, 2009 - Voter Registration Day - 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM - CHS Auditorium Lobby
- May 13, 2009 – Workshop Meeting – CHS Cafeteria – 7:00 PM
- May 19, 2009 - Board Member/Budget/Propositions VOTE 6:00 AM - 9:00 P.M. – CHS Gym
- May 27, 2009 – Regular Meeting – CHS Cafeteria – 7:00 PM
- June 10, 2009 – Workshop meeting – CHS Cafeteria – 7:00 PM
- June 24, 2009 – Regular Meeting – CHS Cafeteria – 7:00 PM

There was no one who wished to address the board.

Public Recognition

The board took a ten minute break at 7:30 PM

Break

***A MOTION (Holsopple/Leibowitz) to go into executive session at 7:46 PM for the purpose of the performance history of particular individuals and negotiations. VOTE: Unanimous, 8-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

Executive Session

E. Holsopple left at 8:40 PM

***There was a consensus to return to public session at 8:55 PM.***

Public session

***A MOTION (Warner/Leibowitz) to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM. VOTE: Unanimous, 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

Adjournment

---

Donna Van Kleeck, District Clerk

\*Note: 1-648 would include minutes from previous meetings since July 1, 2005.