

BOARD BRIEFS

March 18, 2004

The second meeting of the month of the Dryden Central School Board of Education was held on Monday, March 15, 2004, in the Middle School Cafeteria of the Middle School/High School located on Route 38 in the Town of Dryden. Members present: J. Curatolo, R. Dickinson, T. Edgecomb, C. Gibbons, B. June, D. Mott, K. LaMotte, A. Young. Also present: Dr. Archambault, District Administrators, 42 District employees, 3 Students, 5 community members, 3 members of the press.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS -

1. Kathleen Hall, Art Teacher, introduced Grade 12 student, Carolyn Edgecomb and congratulated her on receiving a full tuition art scholarship to the College of St. Rose.
2. The Board thanked Joyce Barney for serving the District as an Interim Principal first at Dryden Elementary School and this year at Dryden Middle School.
3. Joyce Barney thanked the Board and Middle School staff for the privilege of working at the Dryden. She praised the fine staff at Dryden schools and reminded the Board of the importance of providing support services to Middle School students to better prepare them for High School.
4. The Board reviewed the 2004-05 proposed spending plan and discussed implications of the cuts that would be necessary to keep the tax levy at 10%. To reach this 10% level, \$600,000 had to be cut from the first proposed budget. Many positions and programs would be lost by cutting \$600,000. Board members discussed what the tax levy threshold for Dryden community members might be and will continue to discuss different configurations of the proposed budget on March 29th. Administrators were asked to develop a budget with a 15% tax levy increase and also one that reflects the contingency budget should there be a budget defeat. To reach contingency level, another \$540,000 needs to be cut.
5. Six faculty members addressed the Board to encourage a speedy settlement of the Dryden Faculty Association contract.
6. Dan Perkins, Student Liaison to the Board, spoke in support of keeping modified sports and AP classes in the proposed spending plan.
7. Dr. Archambault, Superintendent, reported on the March 12 Superintendent's Conference Day. She also informed the Board of a community forum that will be held by the Ithaca Journal on March 29, from 3:30 -4:30 p.m. in the District Office lower conference room. Board members were reminded of the TAB (Teacher, Administrator, Board) meeting on March 16.
8. Rachel Dickinson, Board President, gave an update on the Superintendent Search. She also read a statement regarding Teacher Aides/Teaching Assistants. The Board met with their Attorney and the District is not out of compliance with No Child Left Behind and is not jeopardizing any Title I funding. Administrators will continue to do a job analysis of aide positions.
9. Donna Mott, Board Vice President, asked for an explanation of the funding for the High School Auditorium lighting and if there was any money from that project left that could be used for the concession stand. Dr. Archambault reported that the lighting is the last work to be done in the project that included the athletic field/auditorium upgrades. The concession stand is not part of that project and must be funded independently.
10. The Board discussed future agenda items:
Future – Budget; Superintendent search; K-5 Renovations; Music Room/Science Room/Modular Replacement; Student Retention Rates; Enrichment; Census; Mentoring; Technology Update

THE BOARD APPROVED -

1. The consent agenda consisting of Minutes of March 1, 2004; General Fund, Special Aid Fund, Capital Fund, School Lunch Fund Warrants; Treasurer's Report, Budget Status Report, CSE and CPSE Recommendations.
2. The agenda as revised.
3. The Shared Decision Making Plan for 2004-06.
4. The retirement of Lillie Dugan, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2004.
5. The change in appointment of Janet Alo from Account Clerk Typist to a provisional appointment as Senior Account Clerk Typist.
6. The appointment of Amanda Kittelberger as Needs Assessment Consultant for 2003-04 at a fee not to exceed \$6,000. Grant money will support this initiative.
7. The addition of Daniel Miller, Math Teacher, to the list of employees approved for extra-curricular duties/assignments.
8. Additions to substitute lists in designated areas.

IN OTHER ACTION THE BOARD -

1. Accepted the resignation of Sondra Raner, Teacher Aide.
2. Denied the request for a second year leave of absence for Heather Williams, Elementary Teacher.

UPCOMING EVENTS: 6:30 p.m. March 29, Executive Session/7:15 p.m. Board of Education
 Regular Business Meeting/Budget Discussion, Middle School
 Cafeteria (Public Comment time 7:15 - 8:45 p.m.)
 6:15 p.m. April 12, Executive Session/7:15 p.m. Board of Education
 Second Meeting of the Month/Budget Discussion, Dryden
 Elementary School
 6:15 p.m. April 19, Executive Session/7:15 p.m. Board of Education
 Special Meeting/Budget Adoption, Middle School Cafeteria
 6:00 p.m. April 20, Board of Education Special Meeting/Executive
 Session, District Office
 6:30 p.m. April 26, Board of Education Second Meeting of the Month,
 Freeville Elementary School

SUPERINTENDENT'S COFFEE HOUR: 10:00 a.m. April 13, District Office

BOARD OF EDUCATION E-MAIL ADDRESS: boe@dryden.k12.ny.us

Questions/concerns/comments can be made via this e-mail address or by calling the Superintendent's office at 844-5361, ext. 226.

**Please Note: Board Briefs are a summary of the Board of Education meeting
and not the official minutes of this meeting.**