

Edwards-Knox Central School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
May 10, 2011

The Regular meeting of the Edwards-Knox Central School Board of Education was called to order at 8:16 p.m. by President Wheeler Maynard, Jr. on May 10, 2011 at the Edwards-Knox Central School Cafeteria.

Members of the Board of Education present were: Rick Brewer, Lynn Coller, Amanda Fuller, Malissa Hale, Teresa Hogle, Wheeler Maynard, Jr., Tom O'Brien, Andrea Webb, and Tom Wood. Also present were: Sue Kelly, Kay Amo, Rodger Williams, Michelle Varian, Ron Burke, Francis Barney, & Rich Finnerty, and approximately 50 district residents.

The Audit Committee examined the warrants reviewed and recommended for payment by the Claims Auditor.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Tom Wood, seconded by Andrea Webb to enter into executive session for discussion of interviews, BOE level grievance, individual participants Session and CSE at 8:16 p.m.

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

The Board reentered regular session at 8:48 p.m.

Public Participation: Mrs. Jillian Fenton asked the Board to consider allowing other schools to merge with E-K for the purpose of Marching Band. She noted the many benefits of participation and liking the idea of cooperating with other districts to give this opportunity to more students.

Ms. Kelly presented the Administrative portion of the budget. Mrs. Stacia Soper asked questions pertaining to the Superintendent's raise, the business manager's salary with his retirement, the account clerk also performing the duties of tax collector, the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds salary in more than one area of the budget, the contractual copier service and state contract pricing. It was noted that the business manager will not be retiring until July and his salary needs to be in this year's budget. The tax collector is not a position that is allowed to be in the bargaining unit. Mrs. Brenda O'Brien noted that the residents were promised no increased costs associated with the Biomass boiler and yet the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds is receiving more compensation. Mr. Williams indicated that he felt the message was there would be no increase to the heating of the facility. It was asked why the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds receives mileage for retrieving the mail and does not use a school vehicle. He uses his private vehicle for this task and the pickup truck is not always available due to the plow being installed. Mrs. Peggy Harper noted that teachers stay past their contractual day often but are not paid extra. Mr. Robin Tresidder discussed the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds qualifications as a boiler operator and questions extra pay for the Biomass. Mrs. Harper inquired about the amount of money given to the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds and does he save the district that amount annually. It was noted that we hire almost no outside contractors for maintenance. Mr. Randy VanBrocklin inquired about boiler operations regarding hot water heat, are we inspected, does the Supt. of Bldg. & Grounds maintain everything with the boilers or do we hire Johnson and/or Siemens. Administration believes that we do not use outside contractors for the boiler maintenance.

Mr. Chris Averill asked about the Title I stipend and why this did not come out of the business manager's salary, noting stipends should not be rolled into someone's salary. Mrs. Soper asked why the Title I coordinator was paid a \$3500 stipend, but \$4,000 was budgeted. The remaining was returned to the General Fund.

Ms. Kelly presented the Program portion of the budget. Mrs. Soper asked why monies are budgeted for field trips when the Parents Association pays for them. Board member Amanda Fuller noted that PTA contributes to these trips, but does not pay for all field trips, in whole. Mrs. Soper asked about money budgeted for the 8th grade trip and it was noted that the educational components of this trip (museum tickets, architectural tours, etc.) are reimbursable through BOCES aid. Mrs. Soper asked why there was budget money for extra help for the nurse. It was noted that many more mandates from the state have increased the school nurse job regarding weights, BMI, daily records that need to be submitted to the state. It was asked if other employees help with this and also that the school

nurse has the clinic to assist her. Administration agreed that when other staff in the building did not have an assignment due to the absence of their student, they were assigned to assist in the nurse's office. However, approximately only 56% of our students are enrolled in the clinic, compared with previous enrollments of 90%+. Mrs. Soper inquired why we are paying for someone to monitor the fitness center and it was explained that people need to be trained on the equipment. It was asked if that person is CRP and First Aid certified and yes, they are. It was also asked why that isn't the same for the weight room and it was explained that the weight room is supposed to be used for coaches and their teams and the coaches monitor that room. The room with free weights is not intended for the public. It was asked why there was a GED teacher in our budget and we didn't have that program and the response was that our program was not re-certified due to low scores and the money for that position was put back into the general fund.

Ms. Kelly presented the Capital portion of the budget. Mrs. Soper asked why we have contracted with a bidder from Massena at twice the price when we have a local contractor. It was noted that the local contractor who initially won the bid did not meet the specifications stipulated in the bid and we were forced to turn to the second highest bidder. It was also noted that the first bidder lacking the moving floor to unload created many more hours of manual labor at the Biomass plant. Mrs. Soper then asked about the need for two busses and one suburban type vehicle. Board members expressed it is their philosophy to keep the fleet newer by ordering 2 busses per year rather than the problem we faced some time ago of purchasing 7 busses in one year. It was asked how old the oldest bus in the fleet is and it is just over 10 years old. The Watch Group stated that they heard the oldest bus was 6 years old. The administration stated that this was incorrect. Mrs. Soper then inquired about closing the pool when it is listed on an individual student's IEP. It was noted that alternative physical education can be provided for students who have Alt. Phys. Ed. on their IEPs. Mrs. Tonya Friot said that she sees a large bus transporting a very few students, which is wrong and needed to be considered. It was noted that you see very few students on that bus as it is dropping at several locations along the route to Ogdensburg. Mr. VanBrocklin asked if our busses are a risk to our students, or if we could wait a couple of years for busses. It was noted by Mr. Williams that the main problem with busses in the north country is rust and that you are no longer allowed to repaint them yourself. The question was asked if propane busses may be mandated, which is not known. It was noted that this year busses are still allowed with state aid and that in another year, there is no guarantee of state aid on bus purchases. It was also noted that the legislation Governor Cuomo asked for with busses being 10 years old our having over 125,000 miles on them was not enacted.

Ms. Kelly presented the revenue side of the budget, noting the decrease in state aid for Edwards-Knox. Mr. Williams noted that state aid is a projection. The NYSED can decrease your aid in midyear, which happened to us this year. Mrs. Peggy Harper asked the amount of fund balance and Mr. Williams indicated \$2.5 million dollars. Mrs. Soper asked if the fund balance over 4% should be used to lower taxes. Mr. Williams reiterated that using \$850,000 from the fund balance this year to balance the 2011-12 budget will leave the district running out of fund balance in 2 years.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Terri Hogle, seconded by Tom Wood to approve the minutes of April 18, 2011.

04/18/11

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Andrea Webb to accept the Pay. of following warrant on file in the business office, as reviewed and recommended for payment by the Claims Auditor:

General Fund - \$53,980.29
 School Lunch Fund - \$6,800.40

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Malissa Hale, seconded by Tom Wood to accept the Claims Auditor report dates May 5, 2011, as on file in the business office.

Report	Brewer - Absent Hale - Yes Wood - Yes	Coller - Yes O'Brien - Yes	Fuller - Yes Maynard - Yes	Hogle - Absent Webb - Yes Motion Carried
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RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Malissa Hale to approve the Treasurer's report dated March 31, 2011 and on file in the business office.

Report

- General Fund - Checking - \$3,593,146.44
- General Fund - Class - \$434,912.76
- School Lunch Fund - Checking - \$36,440.51
- School Lunch Fund - Class - \$30.36
- Federal Fund - Checking - \$453,962.45
- Trust & Agency - Checking - \$577,897.11
- Capital Fund - Checking - \$67,726.49
- Capital Fund - Class - \$56,797.30
- Debt Service Fund - \$292,325.87
- Payroll Checking - \$6,241.79
- Employee Benefit Reserve - \$586,706.92
- Tax Certiorari Reserve - \$33,665.98
- Insurance Reserve Fund - Class - \$37,350.61
- Unemployment Ins. Reserve. - Class - \$296,953.70
- Expendable Trust Fund - Class - \$115,971.70
- Nonexpendable Trust Fund - Class - \$147,760.35

Brewer - Absent Hale - Yes Wood - Yes	Coller - Yes O'Brien - Yes	Fuller - Yes Maynard - Yes	Hogle - Absent Webb - Yes Motion Carried
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RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Andrea Webb, seconded by Lynn Coller upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to the extracurricular positions listed below, at the corresponding stipends, pending budget approval:

Appt. March. Band Summer Lessons

- Marching Band Director: Jillian Ventura - \$5,729.
- Colorguard Director: Megan Bristol - \$716.50
- Asst. Colorguard Director: Danielle Gollinger: \$716.50
- Summer Music Lessons: Jillian Ventura - \$1,664.

Brewer - Absent Hale - Yes Wood - Yes	Coller - Yes O'Brien - Yes	Fuller - Yes Maynard - Yes	Hogle - Absent Webb - Yes Motion Carried
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Mr. Brewer and Mrs. Hogle re-entered the meeting.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Malissa Hale, seconded by Andrea Webb to enter into a merger with Canton Central School for the purposes of Marching Band, for the 2011-2012 school year, at no expense to the district.

March. Band Merger

Brewer - Yes Hale - Yes Wood - Yes	Coller - Yes O'Brien - Yes	Fuller - Yes Maynard - Yes	Hogle - Yes Webb - Yes Motion Carried
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RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Tom Wood, seconded by Andrea Webb to enter into executive session for discussion of pending litigation, individual participants and CSE/CPSE at 10:21 p.m.

Brewer - Yes Hale - Yes Wood - Yes	Coller - Yes O'Brien - Yes	Fuller - Yes Maynard - Yes	Hogle - Yes Webb - Yes Motion Carried
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The Board reentered regular session at 11:18 p.m.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Tom Wood, seconded by Amanda Fuller to approve the CSE programs recommended by the CSE for students #2007, #0066, #1396, #1191, #1101, #1266, #1078, #0058, #1714, #1282, #1779, #0494, #0011, #1238, #1443, & #1296.

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Teresa Hogle, seconded by Andrea Webb to approve the CPSE programs recommended by the CSE for students H & I.

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Lynn Coller, seconded by Andrea Webb to appoint Francis Appt. Barney to the probationary position of Transportation Supervisor, effective May 25, 2011, Trans. at a pro-rated salary of \$46,000. Super.

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

Mrs. Varian discussed ELA testing last week and math testing this week. She discussed the upcoming prom, the senior trip parent meeting, the spring music concert and the yearbook dedication. She also discussed an NHS situation, rewriting the NHS by-laws regarding due process and a problem on the Spanish trip regarding curfew.

Mr. Burke discussed the bike helmet giveaway, DARE graduation, a one week reading celebration, testing and field testing, the upcoming Art Club show, with some musical presentations.

Ms. Kelly discussed a May 25th upcoming meeting regarding regional consolidation at E-K at 2:00 for the Superintendent's, at 4:00 for the teachers, and at 7:00 for the parents.

Mr. Maynard asked if we knew if it was true that the Hermon-DeKalb business manager was interested in sharing our position. Ms. Kelly noted that the H-D Superintendent was asked and said no and Mr. Williams indicated that he asked the business manager personally and she said she was not interested. Mr. Maynard asked each board member to consider options of what to do if this budget vote failed. He asked is it was allowed to transfer money to the cafeteria in a contingent budget. Mr. Williams will research this.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Tom Wood, seconded by Teresa Hogle to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 p.m.

Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes	Hogle - Yes
Hale - Yes	O'Brien - Yes	Maynard - Yes	Webb - Yes
Wood - Yes			Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Kay C. Amo
Board Clerk