

Edwards-Knox Central School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
February 6, 2012

The Regular meeting of the Edwards-Knox Central School Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Teresa Hogle on February 6, 2012, at the Edwards-Knox Central School Media Center.

Members of the Board of Education present were: Rick Brewer, Lynn Coller, Amanda Fuller, Teresa Hogle, Tom O'Brien, Joseph Thomas, and Randy VanBrocklin. Also present were: Sue Kelly, Sherry Shattuck, Carol LaSala, Ron Burke, Michelle Varian, Frank Barney, Nick Crane, and community members and staff members.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Rick Brewer, seconded by Amanda Fuller to appoint Appt. Sherry Shattuck as Acting Clerk for the February 6, 2012, BOE meeting.
Acting
Clerk

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

Public Participation: Nick Crane was in attendance to do a bus presentation and did hand out a document of the Power Point. He gave a brief history of Leonard Bus Sales, who has been in business for 45 years. They have four facilities and one new one. Tony White is the technician doing mechanical work. By August 2012, they are hoping to add an additional person. Leonard is committed to providing the best service they can. They have hired a professional trainer to train on diagnostics. He discussed how "clean" the busses are with the diesel engines and emissions and talked about how the busses run and work. A fleet replacement plan is beneficial for a school district. It is the most cost effective with steady state aid. Schools get on a budget by purchasing on a plan. There is better trade-in value for a newer bus than an older one. Leonard has built a website to help school districts get on a rotation plan. Bus engines are built to run 250,000 to 500,000 miles; it is the body that is the concern. The salt on the roads does a significant amount of damage. He asked if anyone had any questions. Lynn Coller asked what the percentage of state aid is. Mr. Crane answered probably 85-95 percent in St. Lawrence County.

Peggy Harper asked that since we were in a contingency budget how the plan would fit in to the budget. Mr. Crane stated there is no contract; it is just a plan. Chalaine Archer asked if Mr. Crane could tell how much we lost by voting down the proposal to purchase busses. Peggy Harper asked if we were losing more money if the busses were 5 years old compared to 10 years old. Mark Harper asked how much mileage impacted the figures.

Mr. O'Brien stated if you run past 10 years, DOT inspection costs go up in order to keep the busses running.

Mark Harper asked if they offer a salt warrantee. Mr. Crane said they do offer a 10 year guarantee. It cost \$2,200 per bus, and is a one-time cost.

Mrs. Hogle asked if any other Board member had any questions for Mr. Crane, and no one did.

Mrs. Hogle shared that there are new FOIL laws. Any documents that are worked on in open session need to be available to the public. These can be obtained by going to the Edwards-Knox website; it is located under the Agenda and is called Supporting Docs. All public comments should be related to the agenda. If you have any questions, write them down, and we will answer them to the best of our knowledge.

Barbara Tresidder and Stephanie Stone were in attendance to discuss the Senior Class trip. They are requesting the approval of Jim Aldous and Steve Sullivan as male chaperones for their trip. They shared an informational packet with the Board. They would like transportation from school to the Amtrak station in Syracuse and would like one of the chaperones to drive the bus there. There

is an open, unsecured parking lot where they would have to park the bus, but there would be no charge. The seniors pay for mileage costs. It would be a huge savings for them. There was discussion on parking in the unsecured area and possibly parking the bus in a secure area at a local school near Syracuse. Ms. Kelly will check into this.

Stephanie Stone was in attendance to do an E-K Community Hero Ceremony update. Students completed applications to nominate a local hero. Teachers read through the applications and selected a few. This was definitely a hard process for those involved in the selection. Stephanie invited the Board members to the ceremony on Friday, February 10, 2012. The reception is at 1:45 and the ceremony at 2:15.

Matt VanBrocklin thought having the Board agenda and supporting documentation on the webpage was a good idea. His biggest concern was on John Daniel's budget; he could not get the numbers to work out. He was referred to view the supporting documents to see this budget. Ms. Kelly explained this. He asked if John Daniels got bids for the lawn mower or if the numbers were just an educated guess. Ms. Kelly stated he gave a ball park figure because they get Board approval before getting actual bids. When Mr. Daniels presented his budget, it was just a preliminary budget. Mrs. Hogle said after making repairs, there comes a time when it has to be replaced.

Matt VanBrocklin asked what happens to unused monies. Mrs. Hogle said it goes back into the General Fund.

Connie Bessette said she left an online suggestion in the suggestion box. She asked if all administration and secretaries are 12 month. Ms. Kelly said the Guidance and CSE secretaries are 10 month. Custodial staff is 12 month. Mrs. Bessette asked if the Board had looked at changing the 12 month employees to 10 month. Ms. Kelly said the principals' secretaries are union and that would have to be discussed with the union. Mrs. Bessette said she could not understand that if you could cut a teaching position, why you couldn't cut a secretary. Ms. Kelly stated you can't just change job descriptions; they have to be negotiated. Negotiations start in June. Mrs. Bessette said this would be worth exploring; it doesn't seem that you would need all administrators, two principals, and secretaries to work all summer.

Mary Jo Rulffes stated she does not have children in school anymore but is a taxpayer. She is tired of all the negativity. She met with Ms. Kelly and was allowed to express her concerns. She said all the issues need to be addressed. Maybe the district can choose two people and the community pick two people; that would make it fair and not to anyone's advantage. We need to move on. Ms. Kelly stated Tom Burns is suppose to give us a neutral person. Mrs. Rulffes said she wants to be proud of this district again and asked what she could do. Mrs. Hogle said being here and being positive.

Peggy Harper asked if, when we put money back into the General Fund, at that time can we look at purchasing the lawn mower. Ms. LaSala said equipment items have to be purchased when the item is budgeted. Mrs. Harper commented that information went home on the fitness center and asked if someone is being paid to supervise it. Ms. Kelly said no; it is not in the budget to do that. Ms. Kelly said there has to be at least two people in the room in order to use it. There is a packet that needs to be completed before being able to utilize the fitness center/weight room. Mrs. Harper asked if the variance was filed for the tech. ed course. Ms. Kelly said it was filed for the 2012-2013 school year, that there wasn't any students who needed it this year. Mrs. Harper asked for the date the variance was filed; Ms. Kelly said about January 12, 2012, but didn't have the exact date with her. Mrs. Harper asked if she could get a copy, and Ms. Kelly said to come and see her.

Tammy Mackin shared that the questions that Stacia has asked the Board are not just her questions, but are from the community. She read from a prepared sheet on behalf of the community. She asked what the intentions were and what was hoped to be accomplished from having the petition left in the teachers' room for everyone to read. Mrs. Hogle said that no Board members put that document there, but, just like Board meetings, it is public information. Ms. Kelly stated that 17 copies were made for Board members but not all wanted copies. There were community members as well as some faculty that wanted copies so the unwanted Board copies were given out instead of throwing them away. No additional copies were made. Mr. O'Brien asked if students were allowed to go into the teachers' room; and Ms. Kelly said no, you have to have a fob to gain entrance. Mrs. Mackin was upset that the paperwork was where students could see and read it. Mrs. Hogle stated that if it is on Face book, anyone can see it. Mrs. Mackin was concerned that if teachers read it that they would take it out on the students.

Stacia Kroniser commented that she was able to trace a posting made online back to Mrs. Hogle's

account via an IP address. Shirley Denesha passed around a packet of information to the Board members regarding this. Mrs. Kroniser said that she notified the police who contacted Mrs. Hogle and warned her she could be arrested. Mrs. Hogle stated this was an outright lie as she did not post this but her daughter had; and it was not made from her home but from her daughter's work in Watertown. When the discussion became inappropriate, the meeting was focused back to the agenda.

Claude Sprowls said he was not sure if he wanted to say anything when he came to the meeting but signed in. He knows a little bit about how schools operate and if people are doing their job or not. He has been working at Edwards-Knox part time for about eight years. He is going to start coming to the Board meetings and some time maybe he will have something to contribute. It is too bad about the controversy going back and forth.

Lori Brewer, Athletic Director, was in attendance to discuss the proposed 2012-2013 athletic budget. She presented the first draft. She asked the coaches to just budget for the bare necessities in order to run the program for next year. She discussed what supplies were included in each amount. They need to order new bats due to the change in regulations. They need new volleyball poles. These will only be used for games and not practices so they will last longer. Mrs. Brewer discussed the Impact Concussion Program. The first year would cost more. This program will help doctors determine if a student is ready to return to physical activity after suffering a concussion. Mr. Collier asked about fuel costs. Mrs. LaSala said that it is included in the transportation budget. Mrs. Fuller commented that she liked the idea of the Impact Concussion Program. There was discussion on this computer program and how it would benefit the school. Mr. VanBrocklin stated that Mrs. Brewer did a good job in keeping the numbers down in her budget. He asked her if the students have all they need, and she said yes.

Kathy Whitmarsh, Cafeteria Manager, was in attendance to discuss the proposed 2012-2013 cafeteria budget. She explained her budget by sharing a Power Point presentation. The summer program was almost \$4,000 in the red last year. We had five sites to deliver food to serve to students. Hopefully this year we can get the summer program back here at the school. Mrs. Whitmarsh commented that she wanted the Board's input and suggestions. She explained the requirements of government mandates. She discussed what she offers in the cafeteria to students and staff. We need to make decisions on what we offer due to the new government mandates. There are strict rules in order for a meal to be considered reimbursable. Mrs. Whitmarsh discussed her expense report. She explained that this year she had been paying for gas/mileage for the staff to deliver the food to the different locations. Because the areas were spread out, more staff was used this summer. Mrs. Fuller asked if there was a good turnout. Mrs. Whitmarsh said with all the places together, we fed about the same amount of students as what was served before at just the school. As far as reimbursement goes, it all depends on the numbers. Mr. VanBrocklin asked how they monitor "illegal" trays. Mrs. Whitmarsh said the staff tries to monitor the students when they go through the line. Ms. Kelly shared that there is a box available for students who don't want their milk or cereal. They put it in the box, and, instead of throwing it away, it will be given to classes for snack time.

Mr. VanBrocklin, Mr. Collier, and Mr. O'Brien commented on the nice job done on the Board of Education Minutes and Goals. Mr. VanBrocklin asked what the next step was for the Philosophy Statement. Ms. Kelly said there has to be a second reading.

Discussion of Board Member Issues: Mr. O'Brien asked if we would save any money by sharing cafeteria services like Clifton-Fine. Ms. LaSala explained that it's the cafeteria supervisor that is shared. We purchase off the BOCES Bid for cafeteria supplies. Ms. Kelly said there were some things we weren't using on the government food issue because the students refused to eat it. Mr. Collier asked if we had heard any more about money from Albany. Ms. LaSala said the budget isn't adopted until April 1st. Mr. Collier asked what schools would do, like Lowville, if they don't have enough money to offer all the courses for graduation. Ms. LaSala said they could tuition other schools. Mr. VanBrocklin asked if we explore the same with other districts as we did with Clifton-Fine. Ms. Kelly explained that she had approached Hermon-DeKalb to share with the Business Office, and they said they would not discuss that at this time. Mr. Collier asked where they were at with talks concerning sharing services with Clifton-Fine. Ms. Kelly said they would get back to us after February 13, but, at this point, they saw a different team make-up. Mrs. Fuller questioned how we could discuss sharing services with them unless we did have the people involved who did have all the information needed. Ms. Kelly is corresponding with Clifton-Fine. Mr. Thomas asked where we were at with the APPR process and if we were on track to meet the deadline. Ms. Kelly said there are one to two areas that need to be discussed further with the union. We are on about Module 4 out of 10 for the administrators training with BOCES for the new evaluation process. Mr.

Thomas asked about the bus purchase. Ms. Kelly stated it was the bus that was totaled. It is reimbursable by the State. We will not be getting it until around August.

The Superintendent, Principals, and Business Manager gave their reports. Mr. Burke discussed the Read to Succeed program where, if a child reads for fun for six hours, they will receive a free admission ticket to Six Flags. So far there are 35 students who reached this goal. On Wednesday, February 8 we are having the Awards Assemblies at 8:30 for grades 5-8 and 1:00 for grades K-4.

Mrs. Varian stated that Mr. Remington is taking on more roles in Student Government. Students are taking on more responsibility, too. He encourages students to take the lead. Community members from Madrid-Waddington commented on the halls and would like to do similar things at their school. Mrs. Varian said she will be meeting with grades 7-12 staff to discuss the Downs List. She would like to have a committee go over the eligibility part of the Athletic Policy to see if it aligns with their academics.

Ms. Kelly wanted to clarify Mr. Barney's presentation on the bus radio. We did get a bid from Well's. The State contract is the lower bid. Ms. Kelly said we received a couple more Board members that are planning on attending the Legislative Breakfast in March. She shared that she has talked with Jessica Friot and Shawn Coon about possibly doing a summer camp here at school. If you attend the camp, it usually costs \$400-\$800. If we brought it here, it would be about \$150, but we would have to guarantee 24 attendees. The insurance is the issue, and the Board would have to agree to it. Mr. VanBrocklin asked if the insurance would be put under the school's insurance and if it would be the school's liability. Ms. Kelly said the camp is looking at the tentative dates of June 25-30, 2012, if we wanted to have it here. She hasn't asked for any information from our insurance agent until she discussed it with the Board. Mrs. Fuller asked who we would have from our staff that would oversee the camp. Ms. Kelly said Mr. Coon and Ms. Friot. Mrs. Fuller stated she would like to make sure we had someone of our own to supervise and have been checked to make sure they were okay. Mr. VanBrocklin said it is worth investigating. Ms. LaSala asked if we could get an additional insurance policy to cover this event. Mr. VanBrocklin stated we can add an amount to the cost of each student's camp admission.

Ms. Kelly discussed doing a bus proposition for one van and three 65-passenger busses. If we don't order them until later, we will not get them until late next year. Lynn Coller liked the idea of a van. Mr. VanBrocklin asked if we put them on more than one proposition. Mrs. Fuller stated that she would hate to not have enough busses to transport the sports teams to games. Mr. VanBrocklin asked how long it takes to prepare a proposition. Ms. LaSala said we don't until budget time, but we notify the bus sales what we are planning on ordering so we are in line to get the bus. If the proposition doesn't pass, we aren't held accountable to purchase the bus. Ms. Kelly said we will put a draft proposition together for the next Board meeting.

Ms. LaSala stated that at the last meeting there were questions regarding the health insurance Plan A and Riders 5 & 6 premium costs. She prepared a comparison for this. There has definitely been a savings by changing plans. Next week she goes to the health insurance meeting where the amount will be set; she has heard that could be a nine percent increase.

Mrs. Hogle asked Ms. LaSala if she could explain the Gatsby 45 at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Burke said we have 90 days from when we were notified to have the CEP completed. Most of the project is there.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Randy VanBrocklin, seconded by Lynn Coller to present the BOE first reading of the Board of Education's Minutes and Goals.

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Randy VanBrocklin, seconded by Joseph Thomas to Minutes approve the minutes of January 17, 2012.
01/17/12

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Absent
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

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

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Lynn Coller to accept the Pay. of following warrant on file in the Business Office, as reviewed and recommend- Warrant ed for payment by the Claims Auditor:

School Lunch Fund - \$8,648.73
General Fund - \$340,870.91
Special Aid Fund - \$7.76
Trust and Agency Fund - \$250.00

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Lynn Coller, seconded by Rick Brewer to purchase a 30-Bus passenger bus to replace Bus #94 in the amount of \$61,439.72. Purchase

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Rick Brewer to add \$61,439.72 Transfer to the 2011-2012 budget for the authorized purchase of a 30-passenger bus. of Funds

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Randy VanBrocklin, seconded by Amanda Fuller to accept Budget the Budget Transfer & Budget Status Reports of November 30, 2011, and Status December 31, 2011, as presented and on file in the Business Office. 11/30/11 & 12/31/11

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Randy VanBrocklin, seconded by Lynn Coller to accept the Treas. Treasurer's reports dated November 30, 2011, and December 31, 2011, as presented Reports and on file in the Business Office.

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Rick Brewer to accept the Claims Claims Auditor Reports dated February 2, 2012, as presented and on file in the Business Auditor Office. 02/02/12

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Randy VanBrocklin to partici- BOCES pate in the BOCES Annual Meeting and Dinner on April 5, 2012, and incur the related Annual expenses. Mtg. & Dinner

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Rick Brewer, seconded by Lynn Coller to enter into Enter Exec. executive session at 9:45 p.m. for discussion of Session

- a. matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- b. any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
- c. information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- d. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation;
- e. collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law;
- f. the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;
- g. the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and
- h. the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.
- CSE

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

The Board reentered regular session at 11:45 p.m.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Lynn Coller to approve the CSE programs recommended by the CSE for students #1888, #1496, #0475, #1769, #1341, #0392, #1879, #1465, #1308, #1272, #0272, #0068, #1491, #0144, #0023, and #0558. Student #1805 was denied and will return to CSE.

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Randy VanBrocklin, seconded by Joseph Thomas to Substitute approve the following additions to the 2011-2012 substitute lists pending fingerprinting: Teachers

Teachers: Robert Bowman, Reappointment
Mackenzie Richer
Alicia Reed
Amber Gladle
Laurence White

Cafeteria, Custodial, Aide, Cleaner, Bus Monitor, Clerical: Virginia Nichols

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Lynn Coller, seconded by Randy VanBrocklin to approve Substitute the addition of Sharon Gates as a substitute Bus Driver pending completion of all Bus Driver paperwork and fingerprinting.

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Amanda Fuller, seconded by Randy VanBrocklin to approve Bus Monitor Bonnie Hall as Bus Monitor for 20 hours per week at the rate of \$11.57 per hour as of January 24, 2012.
Hours

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Rick Brewer, seconded by Amanda Fuller to approve the CEP Plan as presented by Mr. Burke.
Plan

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Joseph Thomas, seconded by Amanda Fuller to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 p.m.

Averill - Absent	Brewer - Yes	Coller - Yes	Fuller - Yes
Hogle - Yes	Hale - Absent	O'Brien - Yes	Thomas - Yes
VanBrocklin - Yes			Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry L. Shattuck
Acting Board Clerk