Chairman of the Board, Raymond Sikora, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:04 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to Order**

**Superintendent’s Update of the 2013–2014 Estimate of Expenses:**
Mr. Beitman explained that there were a few adjustments made to the Estimate of Expenses since the last budget meeting. He reported an increase to the WAMOGO tuition because one additional student was accepted to WAMOGO, which exceeded our usual number of accepted students, by one. The administration felt that instead of telling one student they are not able to attend, he is recommending an adjustment to the budget. Mr. Beitman also indicated that he recommends hiring two additional elementary teachers. Placing one teacher in grade 4 at Lake Garda School and one teacher in Grade 3 at Harwinton Consolidated School. He also reported savings in the area of negotiations and debt service and savings of $10,000 as a result of an anticipated resignation for advancement purposes. If all new funding is approved the increase over last year’s Estimate of Expenses would be 1.62%. Without new funds, the increase would be .60%.

Mr. Beitman indicated that he is recommending the elementary school staffing increase because of the many upcoming educational changes such as CCSS, SRBI, and SEED. Mrs. Duffy expressed concern that if two teachers were added to lower class sizes for next year that this would be an expectation moving forward. Mr. Omichinski spoke about historical class sizes and the newly developed formula in determining class size. The formula was developed for planning purposes, equity and consistency moving forward and in order to be able to look at class sizes objectively. A lengthy discussion was held regarding class sizes.
for the 2013-2014 school year. Mrs. Megan Mazzei, Principal Harwinton Consolidated School and Mr. Jack Gedney, Principal Lake Garda School answered the Board’s questions as they related to class size for the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Beitman suggested adding “one” teacher to Grade 4 at Lake Garda School and if enrollment increases in the coming months that an additional teacher be added to Grade 3 at Harwinton Consolidated School and that funding be identified in the operating budget.

**Board of Education Review of 2013-2014 Estimate of Expenses:**
Mr. David Tanner, Athletic Coordinator, presented his budget for the 2013-2014 school year. He presented the Board with a document that outlined the athletic program. It included information regarding Athletic Department’s Core Values, participation statistics, academic performance compared to number of sports played, student athletes achieving honor role, postgraduate decisions, athletic participation in college, and a department overview. Mr. Tanner answered the Board member’s questions as they related to cost related to individual sports, student academic performance, participation rates, football contribution and team uniforms. He reported a 2.4% increase over last year’s budget.

The Board discussed the new funding proposals for the high school. Mrs. Lazaroski answered their questions as they related to the purchase of a new lathe and academic bowl funding.

Mr. Gedney and Mrs. Mazzei spoke about COLT Rhyme Celebration funding.

Mr. Smith explained the need for an additional reading teacher at the middle school.

Mr. Beitman reviewed the proposed new funds for the Arthur Covey Memorial Education Center.

Mr. Beitman addressed the need for funding for stepped up security in each of the schools and he addressed the Board’s questions as they related to the new security positions.

Mr. Scheidel expressed concern over increasing the budget at all and thought that some items could be cut to lower the overall increase. He feels there are areas that could be adjusted downward.

Karen Roberts spoke in support of the addition of a Gr. 3 teacher at Harwinton Consolidated School.

Christine Bonnini spoke in support of the addition of a Gr. 4 teacher at Lake Garda School.

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)**
The meeting ended at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Duffy, Secretary

5/13/2013
Date