MINUTES

Board Members Present:
Joseph Arcuri, Chairman
Phillip Penn, Vice Chairman
Paul Omichinski *(arrived 7:10 p.m.)*
Beth Duffy *(arrived 7:11 p.m.)*
Theresa Foley
Tom Fausel
Brooke Joiner
Susan Baccaro
Ellie Parente

Absent:
Bruce Guillemette

Also Present:
Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Robert Choiniere, Director of Student Learning
Eric Uhl, Student Representative
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order:
   Board Chairman Joseph Arcuri called to order the regular meeting of the
   Board of Education at 7:01 p.m.

II. Mr. Arcuri led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Communications:

   A. Superintendent’s Report
      1. Staffing Update
         Currently, two open positions remain; a .6 Spanish teacher and a
         Library Media Specialist. Both positions are endorsement shortage
         areas.
      2. Enrollment Update
         The projected number of students for the 2014/2015 school year was
         2,470. As of this morning, there were 2,500 students in seats. The
         increase of 30 is primarily in the elementary grades. At this juncture,
         the full count on magnet school enrollees is not available.
3. Summer Projects Update
The tennis courts are nearly completed with playable conditions by the middle of September anticipated.

The bathrooms at Harwinton Consolidated School have been completed and will be available to students on September 2nd when school re-opens for the 2014/2015 school year.

The oil burner at the Lewis Mills/Har-Bur School complex has been replaced with a new electronic monitoring system.

A number of security infrastructure upgrades to "harden" the environment were completed over the summer.

Lake Garda will be converting to dual burners. This will allow the facility to utilize natural gas as a cost savings measure with the ability to switch back to oil.

The district is moving ahead with a contract for solar at Harwinton Consolidated School; the last of the four schools to be completed.

*Paul Omichinski arrived at 7:10 p.m.
*Beth Duffy arrived at 7:11 p.m.

A first draft was provided to each board member. The goals were divided into primary and secondary. Primary goals focus on curriculum and instruction and the teaching and learning process, and secondary goals are a continuation of previous goals.

B. Student Representative Report – Eric Uhl
Eric reported on Link Crew training, the commencement of the Fall sport season and Band Camp. He also addressed the start of school, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 2nd.

C. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes
On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consent Agenda:
A. Approval of the Financial Reports dated June 2014
A motion was made by Phil Penn and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the financials as presented;

Business manager, Susan Laone indicated the numbers were preliminary until the audit was completed.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
B. Appointments:
A motion was made by Susan Baccaro and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the appointments as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

C. Leaves of Absence:
A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Ellie Parente to accept/approve the leaves of absence as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

D. Resignations:
A motion was made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the resignations as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

V. Public Participation:

Joan Kirchner
Harwinton

Ms. Kirchner made an inquiry regarding the status of funds for the restoration and preservation of the Arthur Covey Mural. She also asked about the opportunity of a matching grant. She acknowledged the students’ efforts at Harwinton Consolidated who were able to raise nearly $1,000 in change for the fund.

James Pabilonia
Harwinton

Inspired by the Har-Bur Middle School graduation, Mr. Pabilonia presented his campaign to recognize academic scholars in the same fashion that athletes are recognized.

Rachel McFadden
Burlington

Ms. McFadden brought forward a message that was the focus of the Superintendent’s Back-to-School address in the school district where she is employed. She said what we are doing is not good enough; we need to bring the region to a better, greater place. We need to make good, smart choices. She suggested forming a committee and meeting with teachers on a regular basis.

VI. Actions:
A. Proposed Washington Field Trip
   On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Ellie Parente to accept/approve the Washington Field Trip as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VII. Business: n/a
VIII. Committee Reports:
   A. CABE/CAPSS Convention  
      General information was enclosed in the board packet. Interested  
      members were asked to contact Patricia George for registration.

IX. Next Meeting:
    Members were reminded that Back-to-School festivities were scheduled for  
    the 26th and that the next Board meeting would be September 8th.

    Beth Duffy solicited members for a date to schedule a board retreat. The  
    consensus of the Board was November 8th at 12:00 p.m. at a location to be  
    determined.

X. Adjourn:
    A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Phil Penn to  
    adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:59 p.m.; all in  
    favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Foley, Secretary

9/8/14
Date