

## **MINUTES**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Regular Meeting – September 28, 2015

5:00 p.m. - Jr-Sr High School Large Group Instruction Room

**PRESENT:** Jeremy Putorti, James Brooks, Frank Barber, Amy Austin,  
Tony Scrimo, Patricia Norton, Sam Kingsley, Michael Rocque

**ABSENT:** Virginia Rivette

**ALSO PRESENT:** William F. Scott, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Mark Doody, Interim Jr-Sr High School Principal  
Richard Trowbridge, Elementary Principal  
Gregg Chappell, CSE Coordinator

Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by

Frank Barber and carried to adjourn to

Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation of matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

8 yes

The Board returned to public session at 6:42 p.m.

Under Board President's Comments - Mr. Putorti introduced the Grade 5 teachers and 6 students. The students gave a Power Point presentation to the Board regarding the kick off of their PBIS program. The students were Madison Gould, Ava Ruby, Cashton Burgey, Emma Parker, Melanie Vandenburg and Tristan Foote. Mr. Putorti and the Board thanked the students and teachers for their hard work and supporting positive behavior.

Mr. Scott noted that he had handed out the first draft of the new policy manual. In the near future the Policy Committee will start reviewing the policies for adoption. Mr. Scott feels that this will be about an 8 month project for adoption.

There was no correspondence

Under Old Business

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by

Samantha Kingsley and carried to rescind the

Appointment of Ms. Christal C. Winter-Walton who was appointed

To a 4 year probationary appointment as a Special Education teacher

On September 1, 2015. Ms. Winter-Walton turned down the appointment

Prior to the opening of school.

8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to Approve the salary increase of 3% for Gregg Chappell, Director of CSE Services retroactive to July 1, 2015. The Board reviewed Mr. Chappell's evaluation.

8 yes

### **Under Board & Staff Reports**

Because the Auditors have not submitted their opening entries, bank statements are not available

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to Approve the bills for payment for all funds.

8 yes

Moved by Tony Scrimo, seconded by Pat Norton and carried unanimously to approve The reports from the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Of 9/14/2015, the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting Of 9/14/2015 and the Technology Committee Meeting of 9/16/2015 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

A Finance Committee Meeting was held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 4:30 pm in the Superintendent's Office. The Meeting was attended by William Scott, Superintendent of Schools, Joseph A. Karas, School Business Administrator, Jeremy Putorti, Board President, Virginia Rivette, Board Member, and Frank Barber Jr., Board Member.

Items discussed were:

1. 2014-15 Audit update- The annual external audit was conducted during the week of August 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> and the district is waiting for the completed audit.
2. Increase substitute rates:

Non-Certified	\$75 to \$90
Certified	\$90 to \$105
Long Term Sub	\$105 to \$120
3. Funding for the dugouts: The money for the dugouts was appropriated in the 2014-15 budget and awaiting the final design of the dugouts. Once the final design has been agreed upon then the district will obtain quotes for the purchase and installation of the dugouts prior to the winter season.

Moved by Tony Scrimo, seconded by Pat Norton and carried unanimously to Approve the new substitute teacher rates per The Finance/Audit Committee meeting.  
8 yes

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on September 14, 2015  
Present were – Mr. Scott, Joe Karas, Frank Barber, Jeremy Putorti, James Brooks Anthony Scrimo and Keith Sayers. The report is as follows:

### **Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting – 9/14/2015**

**Playground drainage- We are putting in drainage on the old playground before we put the boarder up and new wood carpet. We have to have at least 1 foot deep carpet for a fall zone. Our insurance company has talked to us about the wood chips we have down now and they are not safe.**

**Softball Field and Dugouts- The fields are staying where they are. We are having a fence dugout with a roof instead of having a block one built by Ben Reynolds and his class. Getting prices on the fence dugouts. Hudson Falls is set up like this.**

**Five year survey- We are getting a price from Tetra Tech on doing the basic survey that needs to be submitted to the SED.**

**Septic- We are waiting for Tetra Tech. They are reviewing the blue prints of how it is laid out.**

**Roof- We talked about what would be the best way to get the roofs**

**done, all at once or doing small projects with our boilers and controls.**

**Talking to Garrett Hamlin from Tetra Tech on what our best options are.**

Salter/Sander- It is becoming more difficult to get parts for our current sander. Getting a state contract price to have one installed. Checking to see if they would take the old one as a trade in or see if we can put it in the paper for people to bid on it.

Truck- Getting prices off state contract on what a new truck and plow costs. Will have it for the next board meeting in October.

Different Entrance at Elementary and parent pick up loop- Talked about moving the main office to where the faculty room is, so parents can come in and wait for their children without walking the halls disrupting classes or kids. We are also looking at different options for parents coming into the parking lot for student pick up.

Mowing, Bleachers and elementary update- The new 11' mower has cut the mowing time down to 14-20 hrs verses the 40 plus hrs. Installing new pressure treated boards on the bleachers. The old ones are not pressure treated. We have received a quote for having a fence installed around the bleachers (per our insurance company requirements.) We painted most of the walls and classrooms at the elementary this summer.

Pool update- We have a contractor who gave us a price to scrape and put a 2 part paint on the ceiling. We are painting the walls when the

contractor is done with the ceiling.

**Technology Committee Meeting  
September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Attendance: Joe Karas, Mike Bennett, Amy Austin, James Brooks**

Meeting Began: 5:05pm

1. PowerSchool Access Usage - discussed access statistics of parents, students and guardians. Discussed the need to increase usage at the Elementary School level.
2. Smart board Usage and Post Smart board Technology - Discussed usage, alternative software, and future replacement options and strategies.

Some Lengthy Discussion about Elementary Technology Use.

Amy Austin discussed a competitive technology grant program in use at Saratoga.

3. Chrome books and Deployments - Overview of the 2014 Chrome book Deployment.
  - a. Some discussion about proper Elementary Usage
  - b. Further Discussion about 1:1 Initiative in the Jr. Sr. High School
4. Wireless Network Project - Overview of the 2014 Summer Wireless Project.
5. Google Learning Platform - Discussed the District's use of Google and the changing academic climate.

**New Purchase Recommendations:**

1. Phone System Upgrade - Discussed the need and benefits of replacing existing phone system. Estimated cost of \$13,500.
2. Computer Hardware Upgrades - Discussed upgrading 25 teacher-use computers at an estimated cost of \$6900
3. Discussed a Server Upgrade at an estimated cost of \$3,600.
4. Discussed a testing center / technology center in the Jr. Sr. High School
5. Discussed Smart Schools Bond act requirements.

Meeting adjourned: 8:20pm

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to approve the  
Board minutes of 8/13/2015 with a correction to a tenure date.  
8 yes

There were no CSE/CPSE meetings to report on this month

Moved by Samantha Kingsley, seconded by  
Frank Barber and carried unanimously to approve  
The request from Amanda Heckman representing the  
Brownies to use the Elementary School on 9/21, 9/28  
10/19 & 11/16 from 5 to 7 p.m. for troop meetings.  
8 yes

## **USE OF FACILITY**

Moved by Frank Barber, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to approve  
The request from Heather McGee representing Daisy  
Troop #3041 to the use the Elementary School cafeteria on  
9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/21/15, 1/25/16, 2/22, 3/21, 4/18, 5/23 & 6/20/16  
From 4 to 6 p.m. for troop meetings.  
8 yes

Moved by Pat Norton, seconded by  
Frank Barber and carried unanimously to  
Approve the request from Heather McGee representing  
The Girl Scouts of NENY to use the Elementary Gym,  
Cafeteria and parking lot for their annual Trunk or Treat  
On 10/30/2015 from 5 to 9 p.m.  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to  
Approve the request from Rachel Waters representing  
The Whitehall Youth League Cheerleading to use the  
Elementary School gym on Tuesday and Thursdays for  
The months of September and October from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
For practices  
8 yes

Moved by Frank Barber, seconded by  
Pat Norton and carried unanimously to  
Approve the request from Gary Hart representing  
Whitehall Tae Kwon Do to use the Elementary  
School gym, and the cafetorium and cafeteria when the  
Gym is not available for classes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> week

In September to the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May, 2016 on Mondays,  
Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
8 yes

Moved by Samantha Kingsley, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to approve the  
Request from Chad Monty representing the Whitehall Youth  
League to use the soccer fields in September and October  
For girl's Grade 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 for soccer. They will not  
Be interfering with high school practices or games.  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Tony Scrimo and carried unanimously to approve  
The request from the Skene Manor to use the Jr-High School  
Gym on a date that is convenient with the school for their annual  
Basket party. ---It has since been determined that the date will be  
November 22, 2015.  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Tony Scrimo and carried unanimously to approve  
The request from Joe Swahn representing the Skenesborough  
Sasquatches to use the soccer fields for boy's soccer (grades 5 & 6).  
Mr. Swahn has produced proof of insurance and he will coordinate  
His usage with Mr. Redmond.  
8 yes

Moved by Pat Norton, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to appoint  
The following substitutes. Please note each person has proper  
Clearance.

## **SUBSTITUTES**

Rhiannon Chittenden – Bus Attendant  
Allison Martel – Teacher Aide  
Nancy Brooks Smith – Cashier, School Lunch Program  
Brittany Shaw – Bus Attendant  
David Fitzpatrick – Bus Driver  
Connie Wylie – Teacher Aide  
Elekse DeGroff – Teacher Aide/Bus Attendant  
Gail Donaldson – Teacher Aide/Bus Attendant  
Stephanie Griffin – Teacher Aide  
Tracy Ellis – Bus Attendant  
8 yes

Moved by Tony Scrimo, seconded by  
Frank Barber and carried unanimously to

## **RESIGNATIONS**

Accept the resignation of Mr. Joseph Karas,  
School Business Administrator  
Effective September 18, 2015  
8 yes

Moved by Samantha Kingsley, seconded by  
Pat Norton and carried unanimously to accept the  
Resignation of Mrs. Sheri Wescott as Co-Advisor  
To the Class of 2016, effective 8/31/2015  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Frank Barber and carried to accept the resignation  
Of Mrs. Marilyn Conlon as Teacher Aide in the Pre-K  
Program, effective 8/26/2015  
7 yes  
1 abstain (Austin)

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to accept  
The resignation of Karen Mormino, teacher aide, effective  
August 13, 2015  
8 yes

Moved by Frank Barber, seconded by  
Tony Scrimo and carried unanimously to  
Appoint Mrs. Jodi Birch to the permanent position of  
School Business Manager, effective on the date that is  
Mutually agreeable with her current employer for release.  
Ms. Birch will be compensated \$86,000 (pro-rated) through  
June 30, 2016. She is considered a Managerial/Confidential employee.  
8 yes

## **APPOINTMENTS**

PLEASE NOTE THAT AFTER A CLARIFICATION FROM BOCES, I HAVE  
INSERTED .....”achievement of **effective** or highly effective APPR”. I WILL  
REMOVE THIS NOTE WHEN THE MINUTES ARE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Pat Norton and carried unanimously to approve the  
Following resolution:  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the  
Whitehall Central School District hereby accepts the recommendation  
Of the Superintendent to appoint Ms. Belinda Harrington to a 4 year  
Probationary appointment as a teacher of Spanish in the Foreign Language  
Tenure area, commencing September 1, 2015 and ending August 31, 2019,  
Contingent upon achievement of effective or highly effective APPR



Ratings necessary to receive tenure throughout his/her probationary period, Consistent with the requirements of Education Law Sections 2509, 3012-c And/or 3012-d. Ms. Harrington holds an initial certification as a Foreign Language teacher. She will be placed on Level 2 – BA \$37,311  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Frank Barber and carried unanimously to approve the Following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Whitehall Central School District hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent To appoint Ms. Stephanie Douglass to a 4 year probationary appointment as a Teacher of Special Education in the Special Educator tenure area, commencing September 1, 2015 and ending August 31, 2019, contingent upon achievement of Effective or highly effective APPR ratings necessary to receive tenure throughout His/her probationary period, consistent with the requirements of Education Law Sections 2509, 3012-c and/or 3012-d. Ms. Douglass holds an initial certification as A Special Education teacher. She will be paid at Level 1 – MA \$39,926.  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to Appoint Mrs. Eileen Toomey to teach the ACC Anatomy Class at an annual salary of \$5,000.  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Frank Barber and carried unanimously to approve The following appointments for the 2015-2016 school year.

Advisors:

Dane Stutes – Co-Advisor to the Class of 2021  
Christine Wilson – Co-Advisor to the Class of 2021  
Heather Ernenwein – Co-Advisor, Class of 2020  
Robert Hemsing – Co-Advisor, Class of 2020  
Christina Wilson – Advisor to both National Junior and Senior Honor Societies  
John Chandler – Co Advisor Drama Club & Vocal Club  
Melissa Clark – Co-Advisor Drama Club and Instrumental Club  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to Approve the following appointments for the 2015-2016 school year.

Mentor Teachers:

Robyn Melton - for Robert Hemsing  
Beth Williams for Catherine Heil and Stephanie Douglass  
Lori Comar for Ben Lane

Christine Wilson for Nicole Valastro  
Teresa Cottone for Jacklin Smith  
Elizabeth Lyng for Megan Badger  
Sarah Haley for Stephanie Hayes  
Benjamin Reynolds for Shane Jones  
Karen short for Melissa Maynard  
John Mead for John Etu  
Rachel Waters for Phyllis Cleveland and Susan Steves  
8 yes

Moved by Amy Austin, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to  
Appoint Ben Lane as an assistant to the Modified  
Soccer coach. Mr. Lane is accompanying one Special  
Education student at practices and games for support;  
Otherwise the student would not be able to participate  
Because of their handicapping condition. Mr. Lane will  
Be compensated at ½ the modified coach rate. (\$2,256) which  
Is \$1,128.  
8 yes

Moved by Samantha Kingsley, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to appoint  
The following personnel for the 2015-2016 school year.  
Coaches:  
Kevin Gebo, Modified Football Coach (retro active to 9/1/2015)  
Amanda Mazza – Varsity Indoor Track Coach  
Sheri Wescott – Varsity Bowling Coach  
Robert Diekel – Varsity Wrestling Coach  
Kevin Gebo – Modified Wrestling Coach  
Keith Redmond – Varsity Boys’ Basketball Coach  
Neil Molinero – JV Boys’ Basketball Coach  
Shane Jones – Modified Boys’ Basketball Coach  
Kathy Putorti – Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach  
Ronnie Rushia – JV Girls’ Basketball Coach  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Pat Norton and carried unanimously to approve  
The request from the Class of 2017 to host the  
2016 Junior Prom at The Boathouse Restaurant in  
Lake George on May 7, 2016. The District will provide  
All transportation to and from the venue to ensure the  
Students will not be driving themselves.  
8 yes

**OFF CAMPUS  
PROM**

Moved by Tony Scrimo, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to  
Approve to reinstate 7 Department Chairperson positions  
(\$2,025 each) as follows:

**DEPARTMENT  
CHAIRS**

In the Jr-Sr High School – Math, Social Studies, Science, and English  
In the Elementary School – Grades k & 1, Grades 2 & 3 & Grades 4 & 5  
8 yes

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley and carried unanimously to  
Approve the tenure appointment of Mrs. Pamela Telisky  
Effective October 24, 2015 in the area of Special Education.  
8 yes

**TENURE APPT.**

Moved by Tony Scrimo, seconded by  
James Brooks and carried unanimously to approve  
To dispose of used textbooks in the both the Jr-Sr High  
School and Elementary School. Many are out of date  
And in unusable condition.  
8 yes

NYSIR News was noted

Moved by James Brooks, seconded by  
Samantha Kingsley to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Martha P. Bascue  
District Clerk