

**ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ARTHUR S. MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 12, 2013**

President Neil Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Arthur S. May Elementary School, 25 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Board Members present were Mrs. Baxter, Mrs. Kaul, Mrs. Lappan, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCormick, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Rossi and Mrs. Smith. Board Member absent was Mr. Johnston. Also present were Dr. Lowden, Mrs. Rafalik, and Ms. Zimmerman. There was an audience of approximately 75.

Call to Order

OPEN MEETING

6:30 p.m.

- (Note: The Board will enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular contractual and personnel item. The public part of the meeting will open at approximately 7:00PM)

Motion by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to adjourn to Executive Session. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. McCormick, seconded by Mrs. Smith to re-open Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Correspondence

None at this time.

Public Comment

Ms. Jackie Perrone, President of the Arlington Teaching Assistants' Association, shared concerns of working under an expired contract. She read the speeches she presented to the Board in October of 2003 and October of 2008. She asked Dr. Licopoli to return to the negotiating table for a fair agreement to be reached.

Alan Mangelsdorf, parent and alumni of Arlington Schools expressed his concerns regarding the music program. He stated that there is a negative impact as it relates to the current policy of students choosing between recess or music. This policy was implemented a few years ago, and he stated that this has caused many students to drop out of music. Arlington has a great music program, and he feels that this policy causes tension, difficulty in scheduling changes, not a fair approach for the students. He would like the Board to address this issue so that it may improve the situation.

Liam Viatkus, student at Noxon Elementary School, plays the trombone. He stated that he misses recess to practice his instrument, and would like to see this change.

Gail Rau, a Teacher Assistant in the district, wanted to remind the Board that they are working without a contract since June, 2012. She expressed her concerns of “going above and beyond, working longer hours, performing duties that are not in their job description” because of their commitment to the students, and felt it’s been unfair to the TA’s to go this long without a contract.

Paul Mangelsdorf, Arlington High School student, plays the viola. He described his orchestra teacher as a person who helped him grow. He has aspirations of teaching music to students with challenges. He stated that music is very important and that the district “needed to keep it alive.”

Mackenzie Hobel, Arlington High School student, plays the cellist. He stated that the music program has made a great impact on his life. He would like his younger sister and brother to have the same opportunities.

Mary Fredrickson, Bus Driver/Custodial Worker, shared concerns regarding the possibilities of reducing full time positions to part time positions. She suggested that the district might be able to utilize the employees for the full time Kindergarten Program. She expressed that this would be devastating to many Arlington families who have served the community. She hoped that the Board would reconsider.

Mara Hobel, parent, shared concerns about the music program. She stated that her son is autistic and that music has helped him keep his focus. She asked that the district not make students choose between recess and music.

Dr. Miller, resident, expressed his concerns regarding the math program in Arlington.

Marc Starvaggi, high school student and trombone player, shared his concerns regarding students having to choose between recess and music. He expressed that music has been a very important part of his life. He is also in the marching band and stated that he has found a “new family” in his friendships/relationships with the other members. He stated that music has saved the lives of students and that he would like other students to have the same opportunities that he did.

Dr. Diane Cicatello, Pediatrician and resident in the community, stated that the music program is awesome and that it must be quite a task to organize. She expressed that recess is a very important part of the day to allow stress relief and socialization. It should not be taken away to provide music.

***Superintendent/
Board President
Report***

Dr. Licopoli stated that there would be no reduction in the music program and that the issues expressed by the community would be addressed. They will identify the concerns, options and solutions. He also stated that he appreciated the comments regarding the Teacher Assistant contract. He stated that because the TA's are working without a contract does not mean that he does not value their importance. As it relates to the possibility of full time positions being cut to part time positions, he stated that the district needs to grapple with the situation and be aware of "fiscal realities" moving forward. He stated that the proposed budget would protect the current programs, the tax levy is about 2%, and this will protect the future of Arlington. He stated that the music program here is extraordinary and he anticipates these opportunities to continue.

Mrs. Sheri Primeaux, Principal at Arthur S. May, welcomed the Board and residents to the meeting. She thanked the PTA for the refreshments. She is honored to be hosting the meeting. She spoke about character education, and "filling buckets with kind things." She talked about the program and how it reinforces "respect yourself, respect others, and the environment." She conducted a survey in December and learned that the program is pretty effective. She stated that students are recognized for their bucket filling behavior. She read a few essays entitled "If Our School had no Bucket Dipping." She stated that bucket filling promotes a safe learning environment.

Dr. Licopoli announced that this is the second Budget Workshop. He, along with Dr. Lyons and Ms. Zimmerman, provided the Board and the audience a presentation, an overview of the Educational Budget for 2013-2014. Also included in the presentation were highlights and detailed analysis of Transportation as well as the Operations and Maintenance. He reviewed the strategic objectives and overall budget status. He stated the focus is "fiscal responsibility." Some of the items reviewed were the Budget Status, Planning Highlights and Parameters and their impact, Educational Planning Guide, District Initiatives, Right Sizing and Budget Planning History. In addition, they reviewed the 7 Year Budget Comparison, Analysis of Benefit Increases, the impact of TRS, and Enrollment Projection. Also reviewed were the Budget Facts, Planning for 2013-2014, Budget Detail Summary, Revenue and Estimated Tax Levy, Fund Balance and Reserve History. Following their presentation, Mr. George Beckwith and Mr. Carmine Cristi, presented a budget overview as it relates to their respective departments, Transportation and Maintenance and Operations.

Dr. Licopoli stated that at the next meeting they will be prepared to present the instructional increases and analysis of full day Kindergarten.

8) **New Business**

a) **Board Policy: 1st Reading**

- i) BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education has reviewed the below Policies as a First Reading:

Policy	ERIE Number	Board Number
Budget Adoption	5130	6110 1040
Budget Planning and Development	5110	6110
Contingency Budget	5150	6135
Purchasing Policy	5410	6700

9) **Workshop Consent Agenda**

a. **Approving Personnel Agenda**

i. **Certified Appointments**

That the Board of Education approve the following appointments: An asterisk (*) before the name of any individual below indicates that the appointment is conditional pending clearance for employment by the Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Linda Ercole	Hourly TA, Beekman	PTH 1	\$11.33/hr	2/13/13

ii. **Certified Substitutes - additional to list**

That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individuals to serve as substitutes:

Teachers

Christiaan Sabatelli
Mary Ann McCabe
Kristen Ponesse
Susan Grega

T.A.'s

Kathryn Poponiak
Theresa O'Hagan-Kelly

Home Tutor

Peter Amen

b. Approving Special Services

i. Lead Evaluator

That the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the following administrator is certified as Lead Evaluator for the teacher APPR process as required by New York State Education Department regulations:

Karen Smith

ii. AUSSIE Math Consultants

That the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve Editure Professional Development as the Common Core Math Consultancy work for the Elementary Division. Total amount for contract services is \$33,350 to be funded through Federal Title IIA.

10) Approving Consent Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Lappan, seconded by Mr. Rossi, to approve the Consent Items 9.a. through 9.b. The motion was carried unanimously.

11) *Public Comments on Agenda Items Only* – None at this time.

12) Committee Reports/Board Reflections

Mr. Rossi stated that the Recalibration Committee will be meeting next week.

Mrs. Lappan stated she reviewed the RFP's and would like to know what the next steps are. She also stated she attended the National School Board Association Federal Relation Network Conference in Washington DC. It was very informative and she has lots of materials if anyone is interested. She also stated that lobbying days are coming up in Albany on March 9, 10, and 11.

8) **Executive Session**

None at this time.

9) **Adjournment**

Motion by Mrs. Baxter, second by Mrs. Lappan, to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m.
The motion was carried unanimously.

Margie Flynn, District Clerk