

**ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE RETREAT MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
DECEMBER 17, 2012**

President Neil Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Central Administration Office, 144 Todd Hill Road, LaGrangeville, NY 12540. Board Members present were Mrs. Baxter, Mr. Johnston, Mrs. Kaul, Mrs. Lappan, Mr. Martin, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Rossi and Mrs. Smith. Board Member absent was Mr. McCormick. Also present were Dr. Lowden, Mrs. Rafalik and Ms. Zimmerman. There was an audience of approximately 5.

***Superintendent  
Report***

Mrs. Smith and Mr. McLeod attended the 3-day Strategic Planning Retreat, both thought it was a tremendous, enlightening experience. It was an amazing time spent with a wonderful, diverse group of people. They were grateful to be part of the process and are looking forward to rolling it into implementation. They both felt that this process is laying the foundation for greatness.

Mr. Phil Benante gave an overview of the process up to date. There were three “World Café” sessions with 118 participants and 150 respondents online, giving the district broad community input. A Core Planning Team was established made up of 31 individuals. The Core Planning Team was appointed by the Board of Education on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Benante reviewed the core values, mission, and objectives that were established at the 3-day Retreat. He also talked about the strategies, opportunities, and strategic delimiters. Mr. Robert Maier, AHS teacher; Mr. James Shuttleworth, parent and resident; and Mr. Ed Sullivan, Marist teacher, spoke about their experience as Core Team members, describing it as very intense and hugely valuable, proud to have the opportunity to create a “system of excellence” and the opportunity to produce a district that could be an example for the state. It was nice to see that people may have differed in opinion, but ultimately have the same goals. Participants were grateful for the opportunity to have had this experience. Mr. Benante stated that the next step is to adopt a draft plan.

***Executive Session***

Motion by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. McLeod, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss contractual and personnel matters. The motion was carried unanimously.

***Adjourn***

Motion by Mrs. Baxter, seconded by Mr. Rossi, to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

