

Members present: Buhrmaster, Gordon, Hudson, Members absent: _____
Mauro, Oriola, Sosnow, Winchester _____
Admin: Baughman, Bourgeois, Shea Admin Absent: _____

I. Welcome

President Sosnow called the Budget Meeting of the Niskayuna Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Reports

- A. Superintendent Baughman welcomed the many community and staff members present; shared that NYS has an approved 2011-2012 budget in place although the aid output report isn't yet available; advised all that the next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday April 5 where the topics of discussion will be long-range financial planning, combination 4/5 classes, tax levy/revenues; Dr. Deborah Shea provided a summary of the items covered during Professional Development Day on March 25.
- B. The Board was represented by one or more members at the following: Superintendent Search Committee; Rosendale Learning Fair; Birchwood PTO meeting; Health Advisory Committee meeting; drama production at Iroquois; meeting with members of the legislative chairs for the superintendents association to discuss a joint meet and greet with the new Regent, James Jackson.

III. Comments from the Community

- Julia Handy of Dover Road addressed the Board relating to the Grade 4/5 Combination class.
- Eric Sanborn of Mass Court addressed the Board relating to line # 104 of the proposed budget reductions.
- Shawn Bushway of Mountainwood Drive addressed the Board relating to the combination of Grades 4/5.
- Wayne Matuszyk of Baker Avenue addressed the Board regarding line #121 of the budget reduction list (Crew).
- Lynell Engelmyer of Hawthorn Road (representing a group of Rosendale parents) addressed the Board regarding the Grade 4/5 combination class.
- Karen Sitterly addressed the Board regarding the Explorer's Program.
- Brian McDonnell addressed the Board relating proposed pay freezes for teachers.

Welcome
Reports
Superintendent Report
Board Reports
Community Comments

Date: March 29, 2011
Date Budget
*Kind of meeting***IV. Consent Agenda**

Consent Agenda

Mr. Winchester moved that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following actions. Mr. Hudson seconded. Carried 7-0.

- A. ...minutes of the Special Board Meeting of *March 22, 2011* per ASM IV, A.

Approve Minutes

V. Instruction

Instruction

VI. Business

Business

- A. Mrs. Mauro moved that the Board of Education recognize those affiliated and unaffiliated personnel who have offered a voluntary wage freeze for the 2011-2012 school year. The Board hereby accepts the generosity and recognizes the sacrifice of those bargaining units and unaffiliated personnel who have agreed to a freeze of wages for the 2011-2012 school year budget, to help maintain the quality of our schools during difficult financial times. The Board further accepts this offer from the following:

Voluntary Wage Freeze

Superintendent's Cabinet
Niskayuna Administrator's Association
Niskayuna Director's Association
Unaffiliated Management and Supervisory Staff
Unaffiliated Confidential District Office Staff

The above mentioned groups represent approximately 41 staff members and an overall cost reduction of \$87,000.

Further, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute any and all documents for the implementation of the change to the agreements for these personnel.

Mrs. Oriola seconded. Carried 7-0.

- B. The Board discussed revisions to the reduction list and their impacts on the budget/taxes.
- C. The Board discussed updates to the Athletics budget.
- D. The board discussed updates to the Crew budget.
- E. The Board discussed combination classes, referred to in line #104 of the reduction list.
- F. The Board answered specific questions on the detailed budget.
- G. The Board discussed class-size and staffing.
- H. The Board provided answers to questions raised during the community comment period.

Budget Discussion

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VII. Personnel

Personnel

VIII. General

General

IX. Executive Session

Executive Session

Mrs. Oriola moved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, convene to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Winchester seconded. Carried 7-0.

Adjourn

Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

