

Members present: Buhrmaster, Gordon, Hudson, Oriola, Mauro, Sosnow, Winchester
 Members absent _____

Administrators Present: Salvaggio, Bourgeois, Shea, Grastorf (administrators present as of 7:00 p.m.)

Administrators Absent: None
 Also Attending M. Leon, Faculty and Community Members

I. Welcome -

President Oriola called the Regular Meeting of the Niskayuna Board of Education to order at 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Hudson moved that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Winchester seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

President Oriola reconvened the Board of Education to public session at 7:03 p.m.

Welcome

Executive Session

Reconvene to Public Session

II. General

A. Board of Education discussed options for email and Board packets. The Board viewed the NERIC Sharepoint site that will be used to provide and archive Board meeting data. Paper packet information will be provided for a transitional period at a minimum and upon request. There was also discussion about the transition away from First Class as the district email system. Training will be provided for any Board members who wish to have it for the new email system

B. On January 31st, 2013 there will be a 47-District Forum on School Funding at Columbia High School

C. Discussion was held on the Foundation Fund vote in order for more information to be shared with some community members who have requested it. This topic will be moved to a later Board date, but no earlier than December 18, 2012.

Board Packet Options and New Email

January 31, 2013 Forum

Community Foundation Fund

III. Instruction

A. Mr. Winchester moved that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the changes to the High School Program of Studies for the 2013-2014 school year as per ASM III A to add the following new courses:

- Robotics
- Professional and Technical Writing

- And update the following courses:
- Design and Drawing for Production
 - Sustainable Architecture
 - 3D Computer Modeling
 - TV Studio Production and Broadcasting
 - Electronics
 - Introduction to Engineering
 - Senior Research & Development

Mrs. Gordon seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Instruction

Changes to 2013-2014 High School Program of Studies

IV. Business

A. The Board discussed potential revenue sources from a list of potential sources provided to the district. (See attached)

V. There were no comments from the community

VI. Mr. Winchester moved to convene to Executive Session to discuss a student matters made confidential by federal law, collective negotiations pursuant to article 13 of civil service law, and a matter leading to the potential discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Mrs. Sosnow seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

(Return to Public Session)

VII. There being no further business, Mr. Winchester moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

Business

Potential Revenue Sources

Comments from the Community

Executive Session

Adjourn

Revenues, Partnerships & Efficiencies

Niskayuna Central School District

Board of Education

Nov. 27, 2012

Savings from Monolith Partnership

- Working with Monolith Solar
- Spring 2012: Site visit and feasibility exploration:
- 1 electric meter per school
- Annual savings districtwide with panels at each school: approximately \$12,000
- November 2012: Letter of Intent provided, final contract review, placeholder with NYSERDA

Energy Costs & Efficiency

- November 2012: Cabinet met with Energy Education Inc. to explore potential energy savings
- We will evaluate the proposal to determine possible savings.
- The district is in year 1 of a 3-year contract that provides competitive gas and electric rates through a BOCES consortium.

Lease of Classroom Space to BOCES

- We are in regular contact with BOCES about their classroom space needs and our ability to meet them.
 - Currently renting 9 classrooms @ \$30,000 each for \$270,000 total.

Tuition

- Current policy is to serve children who live in the school district.
- The district could change its policy to accept tuition-based enrollment from children of staff at state rates:
 - K-6: \$7,300 regular ed / \$38,600 special ed
 - 7-12: \$12,200 regular ed / \$43,600 special ed
- Challenges: Managing enrollment process; class size, capacity, and instructional staffing; and staffing needs for tuition tracking/payment

Partnerships

- Pursue appropriate shared services with neighboring districts.
- Engineering/Technology partnerships in industry and higher education have resulted in opportunities for students.
- The 6-12 technology revamping could result in a partnership with Capital Region BOCES.
- Partnerships may lead to savings, opportunities for students and staff, and limited revenues.

Other ideas

- Education Enrichment Fund
- Grants
- Pouring & naming rights
- Cell towers
- Private enterprise (coffee shop?) on high school campus
- Revenue-generating summer programs
- Advertising via signs and banners at facilities and on our website (seeking clarification)

In Summary

- We are pursuing a variety of ideas that will allow us to focus limited resources on student programs and opportunities.
- In particular:
 - Education Enrichment Fund
 - Partnerships and shared services
 - Energy efficiencies
 - Renting classroom & facility space
- It is critical that we remain aware of the time and resources consumed by this work, and maintain our focus on leadership and the development of a sustainable plan for our schools.