

Members present: Buhrmaster, Gordon, Lanotte, Laurilliard, Oriola, Mauro, Winchester
Members absent _____

Administrators Present: Salvaggio, Bourgeois, Shea, Grastorf
Administrators Absent: _____
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 7:03 p.m.

Reports

A. Board of Education and Committee Reports

The Board of Education was represented at the Health Advisory Committee meeting.

Upcoming:

- Tomorrow night is District Band Festival at Proctors.
- Mr. Winchester and Mrs. Gordon will meet with both Senator Farley and Assembly Member Steck tomorrow on the importance of school aid.

Board Notes:

- Schenectady Symphony has agreed to partner with Niskayuna School District in a concert series celebrating 80 years for the Schenectady Symphony and the 60th anniversary for Niskayuna Schools. The concert will be on April 6 at Proctors. Kids will be free when accompanied by a paying adult.
- N-CAP grant risk factor survey has been taken by 10th and 12th grade students, and will be given to 6th and 8th grade students in April. Results will be compiled and available in June.
- High School students participated in N-CAPs Kick Butts activities at Crossgates
- There is an updated video for 8th grade Family Life.
- There will be a Meal Menu Competition at Van Antwerp for 8th grade.
- The Board complimented the music department on the recent concerts.

II. Comments from the Community

Elise Harrison-Smith inquired about a letter from Assemblyman Steck, which was addressed to the Board on February 6, 2014, and indicated that she had a copy available.

Elisha Tomko expressed concern about reliability and transparency of information about the budget. She expects the Board to ask the difficult questions, to trust but verify information presented.

Evan Brooksby asked the Board and administration why it was necessary last year to cut freshman sports to save \$35,000 on a \$75 million dollar budget, and ultimately operating on a \$1.7 million surplus.

Welcome

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III. Instruction

- A. The District has identified four areas of program enhancement next year:
 - Project Lead the Way Robotics designed for 5th grade
 - Math teacher for Accelerated Math in 4th and 5th grades
 - Distance Learning will maintain and grow programs for our kids
 - High School Academic Intervention Services

Instruction -

Program Priorities for 2014-15

IV. Business

- A. Updates on state budget are not yet available. The Superintendent met with Senator John Flanagan, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, last week. There is a concerted effort on the part of Senator Flanagan to work toward restoration of a portion of the Gap Elimination Adjustment.
- B. Mr. Bourgeois presented the Board with five-year budget projections (attached). Building Aid Repayment to SED will be added as footnote "j" in an unknown amount. Also presented was a chart of Tax Levy Ranges and Impact on Budget Decisions and Taxes from 0 - 4.52 % (see attached).
- C. The Board discussed projected enrollment, and the potential of voluntary redistricting. They also discussed the possibility of some reinstatement of certain items which were cut last year, such as adding one late bus run to the middle school (from the current 2 to 3 days per week), the use of TAs in classes where class size is near or at the cap, and modified girls volleyball program as a feeder program.

Business -

State Budget Update

Five Year Projection

Tax Levy Chart

Budget Deliberations

V. General

VI. Other

VII. Executive Session

Mr. Winchester moved to convene to Executive Session to discuss matters made confidential by federal law. Mrs. Gordon seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

(Return to Public Session)

Executive Session

VIII. There being no further business, The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 a.m.

Adjourn

Five Year Budget Projection									ASM IV B
2013-14 through 2017-18									March 25, 2014
	Budget	Recommended		Projected		Projected		Projected	
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2013-14</u>	<u>2014-15</u>		<u>2015-16</u>		<u>2016-17</u>		<u>2017-18</u>	
Salaries-Instructional	28,407,264	29,161,091	2.90%	30,006,763	3.00%	30,906,966	3.10%	31,865,081	
Salaries- Support Staff	6,314,434	6,279,312	1.75%	6,389,200	1.90%	6,510,595	2.00%	6,640,807	
Benefits (see note a,b,c)	18,280,050	18,380,752	1.50%	18,656,463	1.50%	18,936,310	1.50%	19,220,355	
Equipment/Supplies/Textbooks	2,012,940	2,019,354	0.50%	2,029,451	0.50%	2,039,598	0.50%	2,049,796	
Contracted Services	6,647,609	7,011,047	1.50%	7,116,213	1.50%	7,222,956	1.50%	7,331,300	
BOCES Services	3,426,745	3,877,700	3.50%	4,013,420	3.50%	4,153,889	3.50%	4,299,275	
Debt Service/Transfers (see note d)	10,604,159	10,584,000	2%	10,795,680	-2%	10,579,766	-6%	9,944,980	
Total	75,693,201	77,313,256		79,007,189		80,350,080		81,351,595	
<u>Revenues</u>									
State Aid (see note e)	17,680,988	17,049,711	0.00%	17,049,711	0%	17,049,711	0%	17,049,711	
Building Aid-(see note f)						(155,000)		(336,000)	
Local Sources (see note g)	2,232,395	1,568,277	0%	1,568,277	0%	1,568,277	-16%	1,317,353	
Appropriated Fund Balance (see note h)	2,800,000	4,225,268	0%	4,225,268	0%	4,225,268	0%	4,225,268	
Property Tax Levy (see note i)	52,979,818	54,470,000	2%	55,559,400	2%	56,670,588	2%	57,804,000	
Total	75,693,201	77,313,256		78,402,656		79,358,844		80,060,331	
Budget Gap		0		(604,533)		(991,236)		(1,291,264)	
<u>Assumptions utilized to formulate future years' projections are as follows:</u>									
a) Health Insurance will increase by 4%									
b) TRS pension contribution rates of 17%, 16.50% & 16.25%									
c) ERS pension contribution rates of 19.50%, 19% & 18.50%									
d) Debt service maturing in 16-17 is not replaced in 17-18 (\$500K)									
e) State aid will be flat (no increase) each year of projection									
f) Building aid of \$155,000 and \$336,000 is eliminated from revenue as \$12.7M project debt is retired in 16-17 and 17-18									
g) PILOT agreement matures in 16-17 and converts to tax roll in 17-18 (\$250K) - revenue not replaced									
h) Appropriated Fund Balance remains at \$4.225M throughout projection period									
i) Property Tax Levy increase set at 2% throughout projection period									