

*Watervliet City School District*  
*Watervliet, New York*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Minutes**

**DATE:** *FEBRUARY 10, 2009*

**TYPE OF MEETING:** Regular Meeting

**MEETING OPENED:** 7:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** Watervliet Jr.-Sr. High School

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** President, Donna Neary-Hart  
Vice President, Mark W. Scully  
Frank McGrouty

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Christine Chartrand (until 7:10 p.m.)  
Virginia Mullaney

**SUPERINTENDENT:** Paul J. Padalino

**STUDENT COUNCIL REP:** Grace Collett, Co-President

The meeting was opened at 7:00 P.M., with President Donna Neary-Hart officiating.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

**Scott Burke**, AP Participation in Government Teacher, **thanked** Superintendent Padalino for teaching his class this past week.

### OLD BUSINESS

Donna Neary-Hart noted that the **Elementary and Jr. – Sr. High School Activity Calendars** will be **posted** on the District's **web site** by Ms. Aurora, in response to Ms. Ebenhoch's comments at the January Board meeting.

The proposed **change** to the **tax collection process** was discussed. **Mr. John Heid**, Business Manager, noted that taxes normally due in July and January would now be **due in September**.

### BOARD STAFF AND STUDENT REPORTS

**Bruce Wiggins**, from **CSArch**, gave an **update** on the school district renovation project.

**Stephanie Randall** gave a presentation on her proposed **Honors Science 8 Course**. If approved, WUSD would be the first area school to offer the course at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.

**David Olszewski** and **Jacqueline Valachovic**, Guidance Counselors, gave a presentation on **Guidance Office** activities.

**Don Stevens**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, and **Joe Keller** and **Becky Jones**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students, gave a presentation entitled **"Through the Eyes of a 6<sup>th</sup> Grader."**

### ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the Board of Education Minutes for the meeting held **January 20, 2009**, submitted by Bernadette L. Boardman, Clerk of the Board, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Special Education's** recommendations for the meetings held **January 13, 2009, January 20, 2009, and January 23, 2009**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Pre-School Special Education's** recommendations for the meeting held **January 21, 2009**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **change** in the Watervliet City School District's **Tax Collection Schedule** from a bi-annual tax collection in January and July to an annual tax collection in September, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Treasurer's Reports** for the month of **January 2009**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Payment Requests**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** following **Bid Results**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager, as recommended by the Superintendent:

**\$7,105,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES**

	<i>Interest Rate</i>	<i>Amount Awarded</i>
<i>Pioneer Savings Bank</i>	2.1250%	\$2,000,000.00
<i>JPMorgan Chase</i>	2.2400%	\$1,800,000.00
<i>Bank of America</i>	2.8900%	\$3,305,000.00
<i>Other Bids</i>		
<i>Janney Montgomery Scott</i>	3.75%	
<i>Roosevelt &amp; Cross</i>	4.50%	

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Substitute Registry** submitted by **BOCES**, as recommended by the Superintendent (packet #17).

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the request of **Tracy Coffey** to extend family and medical leave through the rest of the 2008 – 2009 school year, to return at the start of the 2009 – 2010 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **resignation** of **Kelly Baesen** from the position of **English Language Arts Teacher** at the **Watervliet Junior-Senior High School** effective March 7, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Christine Gibbins** to the position of **Teaching Assistant** at the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School**, beginning February 2, 2009, at an hourly rate of \$7.65, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Jessica Chaplin** to the position of **After School Programs Substitute** at the **Watervliet Elementary School**, beginning February 11, 2009, at an hourly rate per the WTA contract, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Debbie Shevy** to the position of **After School Programs Substitute Teacher** at the **Watervliet Elementary School**, beginning February 11, 2009, at an hourly rate per the WTA contract, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **home schooling** request of Matthew and Deborah Tremblay for their son, Jeremiah Tremblay, Grade 9, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **purchase** of **125** copies of **Algebra 2 textbooks** from Holt Publishers for **\$10,305.63**, to complete the series for the math program, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **purchase** of **75** copies of **Chemistry: Matter and Change textbooks** from Glencoe McGraw Hill for **\$5,586.75**, for the Regents Chemistry course, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **excision and donation** of approximately 240 **outdated ELA books**, as recommended by the Superintendent.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Donna Neary-Hart** noted that the first **Budget Hearings** will be held on **February 25, 2009** at 6:30 p.m. in the library at the Jr. – Sr. High School.

**Donna Neary-Hart** followed-up with Grace Collett regarding the frequency of visits to the Jr. – Sr. High School by **military recruiters**. Ms. Neary-Hart explained the **opt-out agreement** parents can sign so their children are not contacted by military recruiters. Ms. Neary-Hart noted that Mr. Padalino has asked the District's attorneys to look into the matter.

**Donna Neary-Hart** followed-up with Grace Collett regarding **options** to address the **window** situation at the Jr. – Sr. High School. She noted that Mr. Padalino is exploring several options with 3M including film for the windows, blinds and shades. Each of the options will be tried out in different classrooms to compare the results.

**Ms. Collett** thanked **Emily Rodan** and **Jessica Sommers** for all of the time they devoted to the **Student Council**. **Ms. Collett** noted that she and **Kevin Angus**, former Treasurer, are now **Co-Presidents**. **Jessie Lynch** is the new **Treasurer**.

**Ms. Collett** noted that the **AOH** generously **donated** the hall for the **Snow Ball**, which will be held February 27.

**Ms. Collett** also noted that the **Battle of the Bands** will be held on **April 3, 2009**.

**Ms. Collett** reported that **11 students** performed at the **Colonial Council Music Festival**.

**Ms. Collett** mentioned that the **Student Council** met with **Ms. Caplan** to discuss the frequency of military recruiter visits. She noted that she looks forward to the attorney's response to the matter.

**Mr. Padalino** noted a request for the use of the Jr. – Sr. High School Gym has been made by an **adult wrestling organization**. Mr. **James Manning** was present to answer questions from the Board, including the number of people present, type of insurance the organization has, and duration of the event.

**Mr. Padalino** congratulated **Dennis Lane** and the **Varsity Boys' Wrestling Team**, which was **undefeated** this year. Mr. Padalino noted that Mr. Lane was doing a "great job!"

**Donna Neary-Hart** noted that the Elementary School had a **Spelling Bee** on Friday, February 6. **Samael O'Brien** was the winner and **Daniel Burns** was the runner up.

**Terri O'Brien** thanked the 6<sup>th</sup> graders for their **presentation** and **congratulated** the winners of the **Spelling Bee**.

**Lori Caplan** noted that February 12, 2009 is the **Poetry Out Loud** contest.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

**Mr. Bob Gusberti** – 1212 Hillside Drive, Watervliet, New York 12189 – noted that the **Troy Record** printed an article that reflected his comments at the January Board Meeting about the **Girls' Basketball Team**.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Frank McGrouty and unanimously accepted, the Board **adjourned** the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Bernadette L. Boardman  
Clerk of the Board*

***NOTE: All district appointments are subject to fingerprint clearance by the NYS Education Department and verification of Permanent or Pending Certification by NYS.***