

BOARD OF EDUCATION
OSSINING UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Ossining, NY

Work Session/Special Meeting
Roosevelt Education Center

March 13, 2013
Work Session/Special Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
Executive Session: *Immediately Following*

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Bill Kress, *President*; Ms. Dana Levenberg, *Vice President*; Dr. Kimberly Case, Mr. Graig Galef, Mr. Frank Schneckner, Mr. Steve Wardwell, Ms. Cindy Winter

Others

Present: Mr. Raymond Sanchez, *Superintendent of Schools*; Dr. Angela White, *Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education and Administrative Services*, Ms. Alita Zuber, *Assistant Superintendent for Business*

I. Call to Order -- *President*

Board President, Bill Kress, called the March 13, 2013 Work Session/Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:33 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Steve Wardwell led all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Bill Kress shared the following good news:

- OHS student Alex Delacruz has been named NYS State Wrestling Champion
- OHS Robotics students Vincent Breglia, Dean Schifilliti, and Joseph Direitinho were recognized for their work in the field of Robotics
- OHS student Daniel McQuaid was featured on the cover of the Science Section of the *NY Times* and in a video which can be found on the District's web site.
- OHS Robotics Team O-Bots won awards at the Robotics Competition in New York City: Regional Finalists #3 and Engineering Inspiration Award
- OHS Girls Basketball Team is in the Semi-Finals.
- OHS student Claudia Mimoso has received a full scholarship to New York University in a special research program, won a trip to ISEF and is the first winner ever for the Scientista Award, a special award for women scientists who show the greatest STEM potential.
- AMD's production of the *Wizard of Oz* was a success
- Reminder- Coffee Talks- March 19th at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Claremont School Cafeteria
- OHS Drive Safe/Drive Smart Night takes place tomorrow night, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. at OHS
- A Transportation Video with Ms. Alita Zuber and Mr. Jim Minihan has been posted on our web site
- Stash the Trash Poster Contest Winners:
 - Nathasha Victoria- 1st Place
 - Maraya Ramos- 2nd Place
 - Dylan Wood- 3rd Place
 - Honorable Mention:
 - Tara Tassio
 - Leo Wang
 - Susana Ligouri
 - Patrick Saint Ange
 - Aliya Bashir
 - Emily Janush
 - Maryem Ali

- Follow AMD School Principal Regina Cellio @PrincipalAMD on Twitter
- OHS is sending the largest number of students to the International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF)
- The OHS Marching Band will March in the St. Patrick's Day Parade
- The Red Carpet World Premier of Animated Short Films by Claremont School Students was held this past Monday at the Jacob Burns Film Center

III. Special Presentations

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Raymond Sanchez announced that there would be two special recognitions tonight. Mr. Sanchez introduced Ossining High School student Alex Delacruz and presented him with a certificate in recognition of his accomplishments in wrestling. Alex has been recognized as the most outstanding wrestler sophomore in our area. Ossining High School Principal Mr. Joshua Mandel said a few words in recognition of Alex's athletic accomplishments and congratulated Alex for being an excellent student and successful athlete.

The Board expressed their congratulations to Alex Delacruz and wished him continued success.

Mr. Sanchez stated that three representatives of the OHS Robotics Team are present tonight and that the team will be recognized for their recent accomplishments. Mr. Sanchez introduced the following students: Vincent Breglia, Dean Schifilliti, and Joseph Direitinho and presented them with a certificate of achievement for the Robotics Team. Ossining High School Principal Mr. Joshua Mandel said a few words on behalf of the Robotics Team and the students present in recognition of their exceptional accomplishment in winning for a second year in a row. A video starring members of the Robotics Team was played.

The Board expressed their congratulations to the Robotics Team and wished them continued success.

IV. Work Session

- ***Continued Budget Discussions***

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Raymond Sanchez provided an overview of past budget discussions. The Board held its All Day Budget Meeting in the Library at Ossining High School on Saturday, March 9, 2013. The community had an opportunity to provide further feedback to the Board. The proposed budget was reviewed on a page-by-page basis and line-by-line items were discussed. At that meeting the Board requested that the administration go back and find creative ways to develop the budget further.

Mr. Sanchez stated that the recommended Superintendent's proposed budget is fiscally responsible and responsive and is approximately \$141,000 below the mandated tax cap limit. According to information released in December 2012 by the New York State Council of School Superintendents, between 40 and 60 New York State school districts will be fiscally insolvent within the next 16 to 24 months.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Ms. Alita Zuber reported that it is anticipated that New York State will approve \$862,000 for the Ossining School District next year. Major mandated expenses such as pension and health insurance cannot be controlled and are necessary.

Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Zuber reviewed the impact the defeat of the Transportation Referendum would have on the proposed budget. A new option for consideration should the referendum fail is to eliminate Pre-K transportation and eliminate the proposed 3rd grade elementary teacher position. Changes would be made to the Extended School year programs.

Mr. Sanchez encouraged further feedback during the development of the Superintendent's proposed 2013-2014 school year budget. The proposed budget must be adopted on April 23, 2013. The outcome of the Transportation Referendum on April 16, 2013 will determine if further revisions to the budget will need to be made.

Board discussion took place. Members of the Board thanked Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Zuber for their presentation.

Audience Recognition

No one wished to be recognized.

V. Special Meeting

Steve Wardwell moved and Cindy Winter seconded the motion to move resolutions A-1 through A-4.

Section A – Business of the Board

A-1 Resolution Calling for the Annual Budget Hearing and Annual District Election

RESOLVED, that the Notice calling for the Annual Budget Hearing and the Annual District Election of the Ossining Union Free School District found on the following pages be adopted.

A-2 Resolution Setting the Date of the Annual District Election of the Ossining Union Free School District

RESOLVED, that the Annual Budget Statutory Hearing of the Ossining Union Free School District will be held at the Roosevelt Building, 190 Croton Avenue, Ossining, County of Westchester, New York on Tuesday, May 14, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Annual District Election of the Ossining Union Free School District will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 in the Harvey Culp Gymnasium at Ossining High School, 29 South Highland Avenue, Ossining, County of Westchester, New York. Voting will take place from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A-3 Revised Resolution Appointing an Additional Consultant for the 2012-2013 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to engage the services of the following consultant for the 2012-2013 school year at fees not to exceed the amounts noted below.

<i>Name of Consultant</i>	<i>Brief Description of Expertise</i>	<i>Descriptive Need for Consultant</i>	<i>Consultation Fee</i>
Anna Giordano: School Lunch Recycling	Consultant specializing in design and set up of recycling stations.	To provide instruction to staff at Park, Brookside, Claremont, and Roosevelt Schools relative to recycling.	Not to exceed \$2,000 plus reimbursement for supplies and materials (from School Lunch Fund)

A-4 Resolution Regarding Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer

I move that the Board of Education hereby appoints the above Impartial Hearing Officer for Case ID #76553.

Motion carried: 7-0

VI. Motion To Enter Into An Executive Session

At 9:23 p.m. Frank Schneckner moved and Kimberly Case seconded the motion to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Motion carried: 7-0

No formal action was taken

VII. Motion to Reconvene the Special Meeting

At 9:49 p.m. Dana Levenberg moved and Kimberly Case seconded the motion to reconvene the Work Session/Special Meeting of the Board of Education of March 13, 2013 for the purpose of adjournment.

Motion carried: 7-0

Ileana Ortiz
District Clerk