

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
OSSINING UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Ossining, NY

**Work Session/Special Meeting
Roosevelt School Cafeteria**

**March 5, 2014
Work Session/Special Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
Executive Session: *Immediately Following***

MINUTES

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

Others

Present: Mr. Raymond Sanchez, *Superintendent of Schools*, Ms. Alita Zuber, *Assistant Superintendent for Business*, Dr. Angela White, *Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction*

1. Call to Order – President

Board President Bill Kress called the March 5, 2014 Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:36 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Trustee Ms. Lisa Murray led all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Bill Kress announced the following:

- The NYS Legislature has proclaimed this week as “School Social Workers Week”
- Congratulations to the Ossining High School Girls Basketball Team – they will be playing at the Regional Championship in Binghamton on Saturday, March 8th.
- The Ossining High School spring musical, “Legally Blonde” will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 4:00 p.m., Friday, April 4th at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the newly renovated auditorium. Admission is free!

3. Work Session

3.1 Presentation of the Superintendent’s Proposed Budget: Overview and Special Education – 2014-2015 School Year

Superintendent of Schools Mr. Raymond Sanchez provided an overview of the outcomes of the February 26, 2014 Board meeting wherein members of the community participated in the budget process using puzzle pieces to choose budget priorities. A brief video taken during the puzzle exercise at the last Board meeting shared some of the ideas which resulted from the exercise such as maintain teacher-student ratio, classroom space, safety and security.

Mr. Sanchez reviewed the projected enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year and space needs within the District. Assistant Superintendent for Business Ms. Alita Zuber reviewed the tax levy cap and the lack of Foundation Aid. The District is experiencing a revenue problem, not an expense

problem. District expenses have been reduced and significant sustainable savings realized.

The Superintendent's Proposed 2014-2015 budget priorities are as follow:

- **Space:**
 - Increase classroom space & improve delivery of instruction & student support services in Roosevelt, Park & Claremont Schools by moving administrative and storage spaces Readiness for Governor's recent Pre-K budget proposal.
 - Safer environment when principal's office is relocated and administrative office visitors are eliminated.
- **Solvency:**
 - Pre-K -12 class sizes aligned with Board Policy; considers enrollment projections
 - Modified Sports recovered
 - Related Services unchanged
 - Library Media Specialists reinstated
 - AMD after-school programs maintained
- **Safety:**
 - Cameras & new camera system throughout the District to help improve emergency response efforts, face-recognition and accessibility outside of the District.
 - Software designed to expedite the lock-down process using automatic features to secure the building and aid in alerting people outside of the building that a lock-down is in place and identifying lock-down emergency.

The Superintendent's Proposed Budget for the 2014-2015 school year is projected at \$113,594,242 which is \$17,000 below the tax cap. The proposed budget to budget increase is 2.86% with a tax levy increase of 2.04% and a tax levy cap at 2.06%.

Discussion took place. Members of the Board thanked Superintendent of Schools Mr. Raymond Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent for Business Ms. Alita Zuber, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Angela White and staff for their hard work and creativity during the budget development process and for developing a budget the Board can support. The community was encouraged to attend the Saturday All Day Budget Meeting on March 8, 2014 at Ossining High School in the Library beginning at 8:30 a.m.

3.2 Presentation of the Proposed 2014-2015 Special Education Budget

Director of Pupil Personnel Ms. Maureen Boozang-Hill presented the budget priorities included in the proposed Pupil Personnel Budget for the 2014-2015 school year. Ms. Boozang-Hill provided some background information regarding the development of a budget which takes into account the growing and changing diversity of the Ossining School District.

Ms. Boozang-Hill reviewed the framework of the proposed budget which included, but was not limited to the following:

- Instruction
- consultants and related services
- tuition
- placement out-of-district
- BOCES placements
- private/day/residential placements
- summer programs
- services to the speech/language and hearing impaired
- resource room
- registration and attendance

- records management officer
- psychological services
- social worker
- office staff

Board discussion took place. Members of the Board thanked Ms. Boozang-Hill for dedication to our students with special needs and for the development of a budget which supports those needs.

4. Audience Recognition – Agenda Items Only

Ms. Lisa Rudley

5. Special Meeting – Business Office Matters

Steve Wardwell moved and Lisa Murray seconded the motion to move resolution 5.1 and 5.2.

5.1 Recommendation Regarding Appointment of District Architect

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby appoints H2M Architects and Engineers as District Architect for Annual Capital Projects and for Architectural and Engineering Consulting Services as needed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute a mutually agreeable written agreement between it and H2M Architects and Engineers.

5.2 Resolution Regarding Appropriation of Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ossining Board of Education hereby increases the 2013-14 General Fund budget in the amount of \$88,788 and appropriates the funds from the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve as follows:

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A-5510-160-00-0000	Transportation – Salaries	\$6,257
A-2024-160-00-0000	Supervision Music/Clerical	\$15,105
A-1620-162-00-0000	B&G Grounds & Cust Personnel	\$15,936
A-1430-160-00-0000	Personnel Clerical	\$15,486
A-1310-160-00-0000	Business Admin Office Personnel	\$29,694
A-9020-800-00-0000	Social Security	<u>6,310</u>
		\$88,788

Motion carried: 7-0

6. Audience Recognition

None.

7. Motion to Enter into an Executive Session

At 9:08 p.m. Frank Schneckler 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.

8. Motion to Reconvene the Regular Meeting

At 10:50 p.m. Dana Levenberg moved and Steve Wardwell seconded the motion to reconvene the Special Meeting of March 5, 2014 for the purpose of adjournment.

Motion carried: 7-0

9. Adjournment

At 10:51 p.m. Steve Wardwell moved and Kimberly Case seconded the motion to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of March 5, 2014.

Motion carried: 7-0

Ileana Ortiz
District Clerk