

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 8, 2011  
Spencerport, New York

Members Present: Jim Oberlin, Mark Young, William Sweeney, Gary Bracken,  
Kevin Hutton, Todd Dunn

Absent: Jody Gillette

Others Present: Mr. Crumb, Mr. Milgate, Mr. Zinkiewich, Mr. Kozlowski,  
Mrs. Cypher, district students, staff, residents and guest

The Study meeting of the Board of Education of the Spencerport Central School District was called to order at 7:08 p.m. E.D.S.T. by the President, Mr. William Sweeney in the Spencerport High School Library, 2707 Spencerport Rd, Spencerport, NY 14559

**No. 56**

*Executive Session*

**1. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Todd Dunn and seconded by Gary Bracken that the Board be adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel situation.

Vote of Board: Yes: 5

Yes: 5

No: 0

Mr. Sweeney declared Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Sweeney reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:08 p.m.

Board of Education members and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

**No. 57**

*Approval of Agenda*

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda made by Gary Bracken and seconded by Todd Dunn.

Vote of Board: Yes: 6

Yes: 6

No: 0

## **STUDY/DISCUSSION OF WILSON BUILDING PLAN**

Mr. Sweeney thanked Mr. McCabe, Principal at the high school, for hosting the meeting and for presenting on their building plan. He also thanked representatives from the School Music Association for joining us to share some of their responses to questions that were sent in advance. Mr. McCabe introduced his Building Planning Team members and provided a brief overview of their efforts. The key aspects of the high school building plan were presented by all members of the planning team and are summarized below.

**Goal 1: Student Achievement - Use data to evaluate programs and services to enhance student learning:** with a focus on the students transitioning into 9<sup>th</sup> grade and our Winter Institute Program. Data was used to show how these efforts were successful in the previous school year and it will be enhanced/expanded into other grade levels this year. In addition, 9<sup>th</sup> grade teaming experienced success and is the data that is being analyzed to further enhance this program as well as adjustments to our consultant model and special education services. The BPT also shared how the Alternative Learning Center has been a valuable resource and identifying efficiencies in order to better address our graduate rate by assisting our at-risk students.

**Goal 2: Teacher Collaboration- Each teacher will be part of a team within the high school:** Establishing team meetings is once again a major priority allowing time for teachers to plan together. Release days will also be focused on as well as the initiative to further pursue the need for quality formative assessment practices.

**Goal 3: School Culture & Climate –To establish a school culture where students and staff feel safe and connected:** Working towards an environment where staff and students feel safe is the goal. This includes a focus on the Rangers Creed once again this year as well as an effort to focus on students' involvement in extracurricular activities. Strategies are being put in place to get students to gravitate towards those activities that promote a positive culture. Connecting students through these activities is one of the goals and to continue to provide systems that reward students for positive behavior. In addition, they are working to also establish opportunities for staff to feel more connected as well.

There was some questions and discussion on the direction and focus for data. Mr. McCabe referenced the work completed during Administrative Retreat and our Data Plan efforts and how that has been a collaborative effort with District Office. He also referred to the efforts of using the formative and summative assessments to guide our instruction and teaching efforts. Appreciation was offered for the support of release days to complete valuable work in the area of data analysis.

**No. 59**

*Spencerport Music Association*

**SPENCERPORT MUSIC ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Crumb introduced members from the Spencerport School Music Association. Mrs. French, President of the SMA, provided a summary of the goals of the SMA and some examples of the various levels of support provided at each of our schools in the district. The SMA supports fund raising efforts, end-of year banquets, annual scholarships, activity nights, etc. The SMA advocates for the music program as seen with the display cases, fees covered by the district, and other district school program enhancements that they have helped to establish. There is a focus on efforts to promote pride within the program as well. This is evidenced through the various events and public performances that the SMA helps to coordinate volunteers. It was also shared how the SMA embraces the ideals around community-parent involvement. Mrs. French closed by sharing that our music program embodies the concepts around enrichment.

**No. 60**

*Privilege of the Floor*

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

There were no requests for privilege of the floor.

**No. 61**

*Consent Agenda  
Approval of Minutes  
Amended 2011-12  
School calendar*

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**6.1 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Approved minutes for October 25, 2011 regular meeting.

**6.2 APPROVAL OF AMENDED 2011-12 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Todd Dunn and seconded by Gary Bracken.

Vote of Board: Yes: 6

Yes: 6

No: 0

**No. 62**

*Board of  
Education  
Reports*

**7. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**7.1 President's Report & Communication**

Mr. Sweeney shared that he, Mr. Oberlin, and Mr. Crumb were able to attend the School Boards conference (NYSSBA). He shared that there were valuable presentations, student interactions and opportunities to gather resources. Mr. Oberlin was able to determine that our work as a district is admirable but didn't have as much confidence in the direction/vision that the State Education Department was providing. Mr. Sweeney reinforced this message and indicated that he felt we were in a good place as a school district. Mr. Crumb shared that the convention was informative and a valuable resource for networking which helps us with our

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(continued)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** - continued

instructional and financial challenges. He shared that this helps us to better understand our needs when considering sustainability as we plan for these difficult times and yet continue to bring excellence to our students.

Mr. Sweeney shared that there is a School Board University event taking place at the Greece Marriott and Mr. Dunn will be attending as well. Topics range from implications of the upcoming tax cap to methods for communicating our budget to the public. The event is being held on December 15, 2011.

7.2 Board of Education Members' Reports

Mr. Oberlin shared that he along with his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Crumb attended the annual BOCES Gala. He shared that it is a great cause and the event was well attended.

No. 63  
*Superintendent's  
Reports*

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

8.1 Drs. Cindy and Carl Devore – School Physicians

Mr. Crumb introduced Drs. Cindy and Carl Devore and asked them to share how they support our school district as our official school physicians. Dr. Cindy Devore provided a summary of the requirements for school districts with respect to child health care and the various basis for why this is necessary. Philosophical, legal and historical basis were shared as rationale to the need and value of the Spencerport Coordinated School Health Program. With our school physicians' support, we have a comprehensive team approach and much of their focus is working with our nursing staff in order to connect with parents/home, school and outside providers effectively.

Dr. Carl Devore overviewed his role with occupational health and supporting our district. His efforts with medical evaluation with our hiring process, legally required evaluations, fitness for duty assessment and disability assessments are areas where he provides our district with support. The most common area of support in these areas of need has been in the area of mental health around anxiety disorders, depression, and other psychiatry needs. He also shared how he supports us when medical questions arise with employee absenteeism. As an advisor for our district, he helps us to analyze our medical related circumstances and when needed, support us with legal actions involving medical related incidents where the district may need to defend our legal actions.

Dr. Cindy Devore shared in closing in response to a question by Mr. Oberlin that Spencerport is a leader in this area with our built-in program with our Family Support Center. Board of Education president, Mr. Sweeney expressed his appreciation for the service of our District Physicians.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS** - continued

## 8.2 Special Education Annual Report – Deserie Richmond

Mr. Zinkiewich, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, introduced Director of Special Education, Deserie Richmond to present our annual Special Education Report. Mrs. Richmond provided a summary of the number of students that we serve and the staffing that we have to support these students. In reviewing our statistics from October 2010, we service 461 students with disabilities with 410 of them being serviced in-district. This puts our school district at an 11.42% classification rate. She provided a summary of our classification services and noted the shift over to the use of resource rooms and integrated co-teaching services. Nearly 1000 meetings were processed this past year when considering our Committee on Special Education, Committee on preschool Special Education, 504 Plans and amendments to Individualized Education Plans. Accomplishments were summarized including the expansion of continuum of services, use of student data, new IEP procedures, graduation strategies, alternatives to suspensions, Response to Interventions, Behavior Intervention Plans, and our compliance with Medicaid and NYSED regulations. Goals were shared that included RTI, reading interventions, data-based decisions, supporting schools with needs, focusing on small group instruction, maintaining the services of our Family Support Center and our efforts with trauma/illness/grief. Mrs. Richmond addressed a question around the use of assistive technology and shared that we continue to grow in this area and are actively refining our practices around using these resources when educationally necessary. Mrs. Richmond also addressed a question around the mandates for a parent member and school psychologist and shared that she felt that the “mandate relief” would free up limited time and doesn’t want it to lead to the non-involvement of our psychologists. Mr. Zinkiewich thanked Mrs. Richmond for her great work.

## 8.3 Regents Exam Report

Mr. Zinkiewich introduced Mr. McCabe to summarize our Regents results from the 2010-2011 school year. Within his presentation, he referenced the importance of the College and Career Readiness skills and while we have some areas to celebrate, there is a general need to continue to work on our students with disabilities and their instructional programs. Overall, while we have experienced an improvement trend over the past five years, Mr. McCabe shared that we continue to focus on our students with disabilities as well as our efforts to embrace data in support of this effort. Mr. McCabe provided some clarification around the concept of “unpacking the standards” as we move into compliance with the Common Core Standards. There was also some discussion about the effort that our school makes to encourage students to take more challenging courses which doesn’t necessarily mean that we will experience great success. There was support from Board of Education members on this effort being made by our high school staff.

## 8.4 New Course Proposals

Mr. Zinkiewich provided a summary on our new course proposal process/procedure which includes review by our High School principal, the HS BPT, HS Teacher Leaders, our Curriculum and Staff Development Council and ultimately our Board of

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(continued)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS** – *continued*

Education. Mr. McCabe started by introducing our new course proposal for Advanced Placement Psychology to further enhance our SUPA program. This would be a full year course that would also earn SUPA credit as a co-seated course. This program aligns with our mission and is minimal in terms of financial impact. The training is the main expense. Student enrollment is predicted to transition rather than creating a need for additional staffing.

The second course that was proposed was an elective course that Mr. Lipani presented on as a new offering for our "at promise" students in the High School Academy. Experiential Education is a course that will embrace a hands-on, minds-on approach to instruction as well as our district mission and strategic objective #2 as students will be pursuing their personal interests. He shared that the past few years have afforded the HS Academy staff the opportunity to provide experiential learning that has been successful with the assistance of our Nature Center. This course would incorporate this type of learning opportunities into literacy instruction. The goal is to incorporate similar programs/curriculum as outlined in the reference materials that Mr. Lipani shared into this new program. He indicated that the outcomes are favorable when considering the struggles that our students currently possess and the research that is available. Mr. Sweeney shared that it would be a course that would be valuable beyond the Academy. Mr. Oberlin shared his support of this course as well.

Mr. Crumb shared that tonight is our presentation and opportunity to ask questions about these programs. At our next Board of Education meeting we would vote on the support/approval of these opportunities.

No. 64  
*Meeting Evaluation*

**9. MEETING EVALUATION**

Mr. Sweeney asked for feedback from Board of Education members. He also shared that there has been a focus on getting information out in advance to limit our time in hearing long presentations. Mr. Bracken shared his appreciation of being able to read in advance and Mr. Dunn and Mr. Oberlin agreed.

No. 65  
*Adjournment*

**10. ADJOURN**

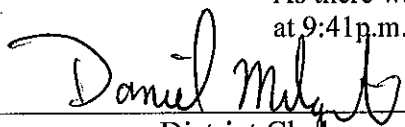
Motion was made by Kevin Hutton and seconded by Mark Dunn to adjourn the meeting.

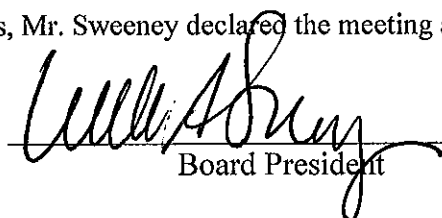
Vote of Board: Yes: 6

Yes: 6

No: 0

As there was no further business, Mr. Sweeney declared the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

  
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District Clerk

  
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Board President