

EAST AURORA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting Digest for Wednesday, October 27, 2010

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Daniel Brunson. Other members present included Kathyann Lorka, Steven Zagrobelny, Dennis Holbrook, MaryBeth Covert, Eric Sweet and James Whitcomb.

Superintendent James Bodziak commented:

“Our school district has been notified that a good number of our music students have been selected for a 2010 Area All State Sectional Ensemble. Congratulations are in order to the following Middle School and High School students in grades 7-9:

String Orchestra: 7th Grader Linday Baase – Violin, 8th Grader Rosanne Carbone – Violin, 9th Graders Kyla Dunning – Viola, Janna Smith – Cello, Christopher Stoll – Violin

Chorus: 7th Graders Claire Engle – Soprano, Madeline Scheer – Soprano, Marielle Burt – Alto

Band Alternates: 7th Graders Erika Davison – French Horn and Aaron King – Percussion

Band: 9th Graders Grant Haffenden – Tuba, Garrett Folger – Trumpet, Carl Davidson – Trumpet, Myra Engle – Clarinet and Emma Bateman – Clarinet

These musicians will rehearse and perform a concert at Frontier High School on November 5-6 with other students in grades 7-9.

Congratulations to the following 10th-12th grade musicians:

Orchestra: Katie Ebersole – Violin, Tim Horvatits – Violin, Alex Weberg – Cello and Colin Folger – Percussion

Chorus: Maren Johnson – Alto, Faith Robinson – Alto, Margaret Naughton – Soprano and Ben Stortz - Bass

Band: Molly Jones – Percussion, Harry Crook – Percussion, Mike DeSantis – Tenor Saxophone, Katie Gelsing – Clarinet, Hannah Schuetz – Oboe and Grade DeSantis – Alternate – Bass Clarinet

Senior High Area All State Musicians will rehearse and perform a concert on November 19-20 at SUNY Fredonia. Kudos to our music students for being recognized for their musical talents.

Kudos also to their music teachers, Mrs. O'Connor, Miss Nanna, Mr. Davis and Mr. Blackwell.

The Rotary Club of East Aurora has recently funded the purchase of a “Cut-A-Circle” machine valued at approximately \$160 as a gift to the East Aurora High School Life Skills Program. The machine is used to cut out the artwork which is used in the button production process. The “button-making” operation is an important aspect of the work experience component of the Life Skills Program taught by Mr. Frank D’Avanzato at East Aurora High School. The button-making program continues to help our students with disabilities develop valuable prevocational skills.

You may recall that the Rotary Club of East Aurora purchase the Badge-A-Minit button making machine and related supplies two years ago for use by our students. With the addition of this latest gift, it is estimated that the Rotarian’s total donations is approximately \$800 (in button making equipment and supplies). We are most appreciative of the wonderful partnership that the Rotary Club of East Aurora has established with our High School Life Skills Program.

Governor Paterson has declared the week of October 25th – 29th to be School Board Recognition Week. This special declaration allows school districts to recognize their respective school board members for their dedicated service in improving the educational experience of our children. This evening we have several Middle School students, as well as adults, present to thank the Board for all it does.”



On behalf of the District's students, Miss Nanna's and Mrs. Schaffer's Middle School Fiddle Club thanked Board Members for their dedicated service with Fiddle Tunes #1 and Lord of the Dance. Student performers included Wren Andrews, Sydney Atendido, Lindsay Baase, Molly Border, Rosanne Carbone, Madeline Cook, Fiona Danieu, Ryan Gese, Carried Goodison, Marissa Hanes, Brynna Kelly, Eliza Linn, Claire Russ and Mikayla Thompson.

Principal Mark Mambretti added his appreciation to Board members and on behalf of the PTOs and in honor of the efforts of Board members, announced donations from the PTOs to SADD, the Parkdale Community Garden and the Parkdale Science Fair. A brief reception was held before business resumed.

Board President's and Board Members' comments and committee reports:

Eric Sweet thanked the music students who presented their tunes that evening, and James Whitcomb commended the All State musicians for their accomplishments. MaryBeth Covert reported on the NYSSBA business meeting the previous weekend. Mr. Bodziak remarked that on a meeting he attended at the conference regarding educational reform. Daniel Brunson reminded the members that the next budget discussions would begin in November. MaryBeth Lorka reported that there were nine submissions for the school attorney search.

Administrator comments:

Susan Dinatale said that plans were moving forward for a forum on eating disorders on December 2 at 7 PM at the High School, with more information to come at the next meeting.

Reports:

- Mr. Brunson and Mrs. Lorka, members of the Board of Education Audit Committee, and John Schiavone of Lumsden and McCormick provided an overview of 2009-2010 Audit of General Purpose Financial Statements and Extracurricular Activity Funds.
- Mr. Doug Wicks, Buildings & Grounds Department, presented an overview of the Annual Fire Inspection Report.
- Mr. Blowers presented an overview of the Capital Project Reconciliation Report.
- Mrs. DiNatale presented information pertaining to student enrollment in the school district for the years 2008-2009; 2009-2010; and 2010-2011.

Board Discussion

The Board discussed the possibility of a Board/Administrative Retreat to be conducted at some time during the 2010-2011 school year.

In business matters, Superintendent Bodziak recommended that the Board of Education:

- Accept the resignation of Benjamin Davis from the following MS co-curricular positions: Drama Club Co-Advisor, Music Club Advisor and Marching Band Advisor;
 - Approve the interscholastic appointment of bowling coach Joshua Koszuta;
 - Accept the resignation of Julie Stebbins, Cleaner at the Middle School, effective September 24, 2010;
 - Approve the probationary, promotional appointment of Rebecca Bailey, Clerk Typist at the High School, effective October 20, 2010;
- Approve minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of October 8, 2008;

- Approve recommendations of the Committee on Special Education as detailed in the minutes of September 30, 2010 and October 12, 13, 15, 18 & 20, 2010, and Committee on Preschool Special Education as detailed in minutes of October 19, 2010;
- Approve the following textbook and supplementary materials:

Grade	Course/Title	C.	Publisher
6	Animals	2007	Holt Science & Technology
6	Cells, Heredity, and Classification	2007	Holt Science & Technology
6	Human Body Systems and Health	2007	Holt Science & Technology
6	Weather, Climate	2007	Holt Science & Technology
6	Sound and Energy Waves	2007	Holt Science & Technology
6	Introduction to Science	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Cells	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Reproductive System	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Interactions of Matter	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Introduction to Matter	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Forces, Motion and Energy	2007	Holt Science & Technology
7	Astronomy	2007	Holt Science & Technology
8	Microorganisms, Fungi, and Plants	2007	Holt Science & Technology
8	Endocrine, Nervous, Digestive, Muscular/ Skeletal, Excretory Systems	2007	Holt Science & Technology
Grade	Course/Title	C.	Publisher
8	Electricity and Magnetism	2007	Holt Science & Technology
8	Inside the Restless Earth	2007	Holt Science & Technology
8	Earth's Changing Surface	2007	Holt Science & Technology

- Accept monetary gift of approximately \$160 from the East Aurora Rotary Club which has been used to purchase button- making equipment and supplies for use in the East Aurora High School Life Skills Program, under the direction of Mr. Frank D'Avanzato.
- Accept the 2009-2010 Audit of General Purpose Financial Statements and Extraclassroom Activity Funds as presented by representatives of Lumsden and McCormick to the Board Audit Committee on September 23, 2010.
- Approve for a first reading Board Policy #7670, "Impartial Hearing/Selection of Impartial Hearing Officers."

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education is Wednesday, November 17, 2010 in the Middle School library at 7:00 PM.



Members of the Board of Education:

Front row, left to right: Eric Sweet, Vice-president Kathyann Lorke,
 President Daniel Brunson, MaryBeth Covert,
 (back row) Dennis Holbrook, Stephen Zagrobelny, James Whitcomb