

**Official Minutes**  
**CHAPPAQUA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2017**

**Horace Greeley High School**

**Present: Board of Education**

Alyson Gardner, President  
Victoria Tipp, Vice President  
Warren Messner  
Jeffrey Mester  
Karen Visser

**Present: Staff Members**

Dr. Daniel McCann, Interim Superintendent  
Dr. Eric Byrne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. John Chow, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Dr. Kusum Sinha, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Leadership Development  
Terry Dell'olio, District Clerk/Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Visitors Present:** Representatives of the Chappaqua PTA, school PTAs, building administrators, faculty, students and other interested community members.

**President Gardner convened the public meeting at 5:30 p.m.**

**Moved by Karen Visser to convene the public meeting at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Warren Messner. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending federal litigation (Taylor v. Chappaqua CSD, et al), the employment history of a particular person(s), and collective bargaining. Seconded by Warren Messner. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Moved by Warren Messner to reconvene the public meeting at 7:38 p.m. Seconded by Karen Visser. Motion carried 5-0.**

Lori Morton, Chairperson, Chappaqua PTA STEM Fest, stated that 330 students participated in the April 29 Chappaqua PTA STEM Fest. A few students who participated in the STEM Fest shared their projects. Giselle "Gigi" Wheeler, a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student at Westorhard Elementary School, shared her presentation on pollution and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students, Nora Morton, Harper Margolies, and Manuel Bruses shared their research project on how oysters filter water and the robotics portion of their project.

Leslie Kuhn, with the Chappaqua School Foundation, introduced two InstaGrants on the agenda totaling \$4,500.

- 5.8 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Chappaqua School Foundation InstaGrant Gift of \$2,000 or less for Hydroponics. Students will work in groups of 3-4 to research, design and build a vertical hydroponics unit. This InstaGrant is requested by Mr. Mike DeBellis, Horace Greeley High School.

- 5.9 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Chappaqua School Foundation InstaGrant Gift of \$2,500 to reconstruct the Westorcharde Elementary School Nature Trail. This InstaGrant is requested by Ms. Elizabeth Kasulka, Girl Scout Troop Leader for an 8th grade troop at Seven Bridges Middle School. Her daughter Stephanie, along with two of her troop mates, Eileen Trotta and Emma Terjesen, are working on their Silver Award. The project they have chosen is to recreate the Westorcharde Elementary School nature trail, which was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

**Moved by Alyson Gardner, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approve Items 5.8 and 5.9, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 41m:08s)

**Presentations:** [Public Library Proposed 2017-18 Budget](#)

Pam Thornton, Library Director, presented the Chappaqua Central School District Public Library's Proposed 2017-18 Budget of \$3,085,869. Ms. Thornton reviewed revenues, expenditures, and tax analysis. The Board thanked Ms. Thornton.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 44m:40s)

### [2017-18 Budget Hearing](#)

Dr. McCann, Interim Superintendent and John Chow, Assistant Superintendent of Business, gave a brief summary of the proposed 2017-18 budget. The adopted 2017-18 budget is \$119,571,688, which reflects a 1.14% increase. The Tax Levy is \$106,726,146, which reflects a 0.72% increase. Mr. Chow reviewed 2016-17 Approved vs. 2017-18 Projected Revenues. Mr. Chow stated we are projected to receive \$64,500 more in State Aid. Mr. Chow reviewed the estimated 2017-18 Tax Analysis. Dr. McCann discussed personnel reductions and additions.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 56m:33s)

## 1. Information Business Affairs

### 1.1 President's Report

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### Addendum

- 1.1.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby authorizes its President to sign a three-year employment agreement, effective July 6, 2017 and terminating on July 5, 2020, with Dr. Christine Ackerman who shall serve as Superintendent of Schools, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

President Gardner discussed the superintendent search process.

**Moved by Alyson Gardner, seconded by Victoria Tipp, that the Board hereby authorizes its President to sign a three-year employment agreement, effective July 6, 2017 and terminating on July 5, 2020, with Dr. Christine Ackerman who shall serve as Superintendent of Schools, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting. Motion carried 5-0.**

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 17m:57s)

## 1.2 Interim Superintendent's Report

Dr. McCann shared activities in the District, including the Chappaqua School Foundations Spring Gala, the April 26 conference on Diversity and Inclusion, and Grading Policy. Dr. McCann went on to thank Dr. Byrne for all his contributions to the Chappaqua Central School District.

Dr. Kusum Sinha, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Leadership Development, discussed the Anonymous Alerts reporting system.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 1h:11m:40s)

## 2. Organization

## 3. Approvals & Ratification

3.1 Minutes of March 28, 2017

3.2 Minutes of March 29, 2017

3.3 Minutes of April 5, 2017

3.4 Minutes of April 18, 2017

Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Alyson Gardner to approve Items 3.1 through 3.3, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Victoria Tipp, seconded by Warren Messner to table Item 3.4. Motion carried 5-0.

*Recess called at 8:23 p.m.*

*Karen Visser was excused at 8:23 p.m.*

*Return from recess at 8:26 p.m.*

## 4. Recommended Action: Personnel

Dr. McCann made the following recommendations:

### 4.1 Instructional

#### Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Education hereby appoints the individuals listed as per diem substitute teachers to be employed on an "as needed" basis:

Megan Gulotta  
Jennifer Kuo and  
Jonathan Richman.

#### Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the probationary term of Science Teacher, Priya Ma, shall be amended to terminate on September 1, 2019, based upon receipt of proof of tenure in a New York State public school district.

**Resignation:**

Dr. Eric Byrne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, effective June 30, 2017.

Ms. Shannon Pezzullo, Teaching Assistant, Horace Greeley High School, effective April 23, 2017.

**Appointment: Coaching**

Mr. Scott Diskin, Modified Baseball, Robert E. Bell Middle School, effective March 27, 2017 through June 2, 2017 (or earlier at the discretion of the Board of Education), Step 1, \$4020.

Mr. Manuel Pragana, Modified Baseball, Seven Bridges Middle School, effective March 27, 2017 through June 2, 2017 (or earlier at the discretion of the Board of Education), Step 1, \$4020.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Warren Messner to approve Item 4.1 Recommended for Action, Personnel, Instructional. Motion carried 4-0.**

**4.2 Non-Instructional**

**Dr. McCann made the following recommendations:**

**Resignation for Purposes of Retirement**

Vincent Savino – Benefits Assistant at the Education Center, effective June 30, 2017.

Mary Jane Spergel – Senior Office Assistant-Automated Systems at the Education Center, effective June 30, 2017.

**Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints the individual listed below as per diem clerical substitute to be employed on an “as needed” basis, effective July 1, 2017. The salary is \$15.00 per hour:

Vincent Savino

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Victoria Tipp to approve Item 4.2 Recommended for Action, Personnel, Non-Instructional. Motion carried 4-0.**

**5. Recommended Action: Other**

5.1 CSE Summaries reported to the Board on March 15, 2017.

**Moved by Victoria Tipp, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education hereby approves CSE Summaries reported to the Board on May 3, 2017. Motion carried 4-0.**

5.2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves a Contract for Health and Welfare Services with Greenburgh Central School District for 2 students at a rate of \$903.88 per student, effective September 2, 2016 to June 28, 2017, and authorizes the Board President, Superintendent, and District Clerk to execute this Agreement.

**Moved by Warren Messner, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approves a Contract for Health and Welfare Services with Greenburgh Central School District for 2 students at a rate of \$903.88 per student, effective September 2, 2016 to June 28, 2017, and authorizes the Board President, Superintendent, and District Clerk to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves a Contract for Health and Welfare Services with Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School District for 14 students at a rate of \$1,060.51 per student, effective September 9, 2016 to June 23, 2017, and authorizes the Board President and District Clerk to execute this Agreement.

**Moved by Warren Messner, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approves a Contract for Health and Welfare Services with Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School District for 14 students at a rate of \$1,060.51 per student, effective September 9, 2016 to June 23, 2017, and authorizes the Board President and District Clerk to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.4 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the Contract with Greenburgh-Graham Union Free School District for one student, effective March 16, 2017 to June 30, 2017 and authorizes the Board President and Superintendent to execute this Agreement.

**Moved by Warren Messner, seconded by Victoria Tipp that the Board of Education approves the Contract with Greenburgh-Graham Union Free School District for one student, effective March 16, 2017 to June 30, 2017 and authorizes the Board President and Superintendent to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.5 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an Agreement with Panorama Education effective May 3, 2017 to June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$4,500, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Victoria Tipp that the Board of Education approves an Agreement with Panorama Education effective May 3, 2017 to June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$4,500, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the appointment of additional election personnel for the May 16, 2017 School Budget Vote/Election.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Warren Messner that the Board of Education approves the appointment of additional election personnel for the May 16, 2017 School Budget Vote/Election. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.7 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the 2017-18 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Warren Messner that the Board of Education approves the 2017-18 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, as amended. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.8 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Chappaqua School Foundation InstaGrant Gift of \$2,000 or less for Hydroponics. Students will work in groups of 3-4 to research, design and build a vertical hydroponics unit. This InstaGrant is requested by Mr. Mike DeBellis, Horace Greeley High School.



- 5.9 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Chappaqua School Foundation InstaGrant Gift of \$2,500 to reconstruct the Westorcharde Elementary School Nature Trail. This InstaGrant is requested by Ms. Elizabeth Kasulka, Girl Scout Troop Leader for an 8th grade troop at Seven Bridges Middle School. Her daughter Stephanie, along with two of her troop mates, Eileen Trotta and Emma Terjesen, are working on their Silver Award. The project they have chosen is to recreate the Westorcharde Elementary School nature trail, which was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

**Items 5.8 and 5.9 approved at the beginning of the meeting.**

- 5.10 WHEREAS, the District owns the attached list of items which are no longer useful or necessary for school district purposes and of no value to the School District;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares such items to be surplus property and of no value to the School District and authorizes the disposal of such equipment in a prudent manner in accordance with law.

**Jeffrey Mester offered the following resolution, WHEREAS, the District owns the [attached list](#) of items, which are no longer useful or necessary for school district purposes and of no value to the School District;**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares such items to be surplus property and of no value to the School District and authorizes the disposal of such equipment in a prudent manner in accordance with law. Victoria Tipp seconded. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.11 WHEREAS, LEGO Education is the educational division of LEGO Brand Retail, Inc. and is the sole source vendor and distributor of LEGO Education School-Range products, including MINDSTORM EV3 for Schools Robotics base sets, expansion sets, software, site licenses etc. and other education products and is the sole source provider of LEGO Education Academy Professional Development trainings, as set forth in a letter from LEGO Education dated September 16, 2016;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares LEGO Education to be the sole source vendor, provider and distributor of such educational products and professional development trainings and, therefore, determines that the purchase of the MINDSTORM EV3 Core Set and accessories is not subject to competitive bidding under Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Alyson Gardner that the Board of Education approve Item 5.11, as presented, and authorizes the Board President to execute this agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.12 WHEREAS, the Board of Education, in accordance with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law, invited sealed bids for Infrastructure Improvements at Robert E. Bell School and Horace Greeley High School, which included Contract #1: General Construction Work and Contract #2: Roofing Work ("Infrastructure Improvements Project"); and

WHEREAS, the bids were opened publicly on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and only one bid was received for Contract #1: General Construction Work; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes it to be in the best interests of the School District to reject the one bid and rebid Contract #1;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, in the best interests of the School District, hereby rejects the bid for the Infrastructure Improvements Project, Contract #1: General Construction Work, on the basis that there was only one bid for such Contract, and directs that Contract #1 be rebid.

**Moved by Victoria Tipp, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approves Item 5.12, as presented, and authorizes the Board President to execute this agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.13 CCSD Bid #948 Renewal Recommendation – Driver’s Education – PAS Auto School – \$445 per student, effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

**Moved by Victoria Tipp, seconded by Warren Messner that the Board of Education CCSD Bid #948 Renewal Recommendation – Driver’s Education – PAS Auto School – \$445 per student, effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.14 CCSD Bid #945 Renewal Recommendation – Solid Waste Services for Buildings Owned by the Chappaqua Central School District and the Town of New Castle – Sani-Pro Disposal/d.b.a Suburban Carting, in the amount of \$66,420.00, for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Moved by Jeffrey Mester, seconded by Victoria Tipp that the Board of Education approves CCSD Bid #945 Renewal Recommendation – Solid Waste Services for Buildings Owned by the Chappaqua Central School District and the Town of New Castle – Sani-Pro Disposal/d.b.a Suburban Carting, in the amount of \$66,420.00, for the 2017-2018 school year, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

- 5.15 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an Addendum to a New Lease Agreement with Macrolease Corporation for in the additional amount of \$2,124 per school year for 3 years, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement.

**Moved by Victoria Tipp, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approves an Addendum to a New Lease Agreement with Macrolease Corporation for in the additional amount of \$2,124 per school year for 3 years, and authorizes the Board President to execute this Agreement. Motion carried 4-0.**

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#### Addendum

- 5.16 CCSD Bid #B2017-4 – Infrastructure Improvements at Robert E. Bell Middle School and Horace Greeley High School, Contract # 2 Roofing Work (Infrastructure Improvements Project) – recommend to award to Milcon Construction Corporation - \$1,682,800.00.

**Moved by Warren Messner, seconded by Victoria Tipp that the Board of Education approves CCSD Bid #B2017-4 – Infrastructure Improvements at Robert E. Bell Middle School and Horace Greeley High School, Contract # 2 Roofing Work (Infrastructure Improvements Project) – recommend to award to Milcon Construction Corporation - \$1,682,800.00. Motion carried 4-0.**

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## 6. Facilities Committee

Board member, Jeffrey Mester, as a Facilities Committee member, stated there is a Facilities Committee meeting tomorrow at 5:15 p.m. at the Ed Center. Mr. Mester commented that

construction has begun on the Competition Field at Horace Greeley High School and that we are waiting for approval for certain portions of the bond from NYSED (New York State Education Department). Mr. Mester went on to state that the District had planned to begin work at one of the elementary schools this summer, but as of now it does not appear that we will be able to do that. Mr. Mester stated that he would have more of a detailed update at the May 24 Board meeting.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 1h:51m:18s)

## 7. **Policy Committee**

Board President, Alyson Gardner, as a member of the Policy Committee, shared there was a Policy Committee meeting earlier this week and the committee will be bringing forth a draft policy on electronic communications and social media.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 1h:53m:55s)

## 8. **Communications Committee**

Board President, Alyson Gardner, as a member of the Communications Committee, commented that the committee is working closely with Darleen Nicolosi, Director of Instructional Technology, as the District transitions our website to a new platform.

(Click [here](#) to view the full discussion and move your cursor to 1h:55m:11s)

## 9. **Financials**

9.1 Revenue Status Report – 07/01/16 to 03/31/17

9.2 Appropriation Status Summary Report – 07/01/16 to 03/31/17

9.3 Treasurer’s Report – March 2017

9.4 Audit of Claims – March 2017

**Moved by Warren Messner, seconded by Jeffrey Mester that the Board of Education approve Items 9.1 through 9.4, as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

## 10. **Notice of Future Meetings**

Wednesday, May 16, 2017  
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Horace Greeley High School Gymnasium  
*Annual Budget Vote / Election*

Tuesday, May 23, 2017  
5:15 p.m. – Education Center  
*Policy Committee Meeting*

Wednesday, May 24, 2017  
7:30 p.m. – Horace Greeley High School Academic Commons  
*Tenured Teacher Recognition*

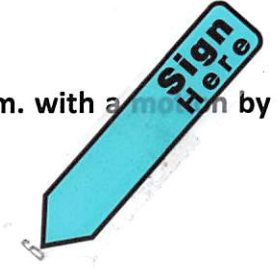
**Moved by Jeffrey Mester to enter into Executive Session to continue discussions regarding pending federal litigation (Taylor v. Chappaqua CSD, et al), the employment history of a particular person(s), and collective bargaining. Seconded by Warren Messner. Motion carried 4-0.**



Moved by Victoria Tipp to reconvene the public meeting at 10:45 p.m. Seconded by Jeffrey Mester. Motion carried 4-0.

11. Adjournment

Being no further business to be acted upon, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. with a motion by Alyson Gardner, seconded by Warren Messner. Motion carried 4-0.



Respectfully submitted,

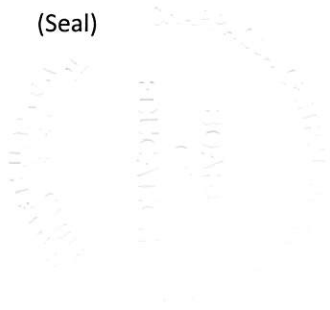
Therese Dell'olio  
District Clerk / Executive Assistant  
to the Superintendent

05/25/17  
Date

Alyson Gardner  
President, Board of Education

5/25/17  
Date

(Seal)



/tkd