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BOARD MINUTES

March 2, 2005

The regular meeting of the Board of Education held on March 2, 2005 commenced at 5:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

All Board Members were present, except Mrs. Evans.

The Interim Superintendent was present.

President Johnson presided.

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At this point, President Johnson recognized students from Burgard.

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Board Recognition

I.A. D'Youville Porter School #3 2005 Pathfinder Award Winner

Interim Superintendent Hargrave read into the record the following:

The Board of Education recognizes the faculty, students and parents from D'Youville Porter School #3 who were winners of the Business Council of New York State, Inc. *2005 Pathfinder Award for Outstanding Educational Improvement*.

This year, the award was reduced from 24 to 14 schools of the over 2,900 elementary schools in New York State. D'Youville Porter earned it because they are the only public school in Buffalo that has made the greatest combined percent improvement on the State's 4th grade Math and English Language Arts tests from 2003 to 2004.

The award is symbolized by a specially crafted-in-New York trophy for display in the school and a \$1,000 check to be used for advancing the school's educational program. These Business Council awards will be presented at the school.

Congratulations to the faculty, students and parents from D'Youville Porter School #3 for achieving this recognition.

Mr. Hernandez, on behalf of the Board, gave a token of appreciation to the faculty, students and parents.

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Speakers made comments on various issues.

Interim Superintendent Hargrave responded to the speakers.

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Interim Superintendent's Update

1. Interim Superintendent Hargrave gave a brief status report on the nurses' situation and shared that letters have gone out to families. The monies are not readily available to pay for nurses.

Educational Update

Michelle Agosto, Supervisor of Art, gave an Art update.

Board Minutes

APPROVED, Board Minutes of February 23, 2005 with the following addition on page 3: There was a discussion regarding Item IX.B.4. Building Usage Changes - #44 Lincoln Academy and it being placed on the agenda. Dr. Collins stated that according to Robert's Rules of Order it had to be brought back by someone on the prevailing side to be reconsidered. Mr. Kane stated that his interpretation of Robert's Rules of Order is, if it was that night and the vote is reconsidered, it would have to be brought back by someone on the prevailing side. At a subsequent meeting, that is not the case. The vote was unanimous.

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The Board received Committee Reports as follows:

1. The Finance and Operations Committee submitted an oral report through its Chairperson, Mr. Coyle, as follows:

Mr. Coyle announced that the next Finance and Operations Committee meeting will be held March 16, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in 801 City Hall and outlined the agenda.

2. The Student Achievement Committee submitted an oral report through its Chairperson, Mrs. Curry, as follows:

Mrs. Curry announced that the next Student Achievement Committee meeting will be held March 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in 801 City Hall.

3. Mrs. Grant announced that the Joint School Construction Meeting will be March 7, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in 209 City Hall.
4. Dr. Collins announced that the Erie County Association of School Board's meeting will be March 11, 2005.
5. The Executive Affairs Committee submitted an oral report through its Chairperson, Ms. Hanlon, as follows:
 1. Item IX.C.18. School naming of the former Emerson High School to Harvey Austin School will be taken off the agenda tonight.
 2. Items IX.E.21, IX.E.22 and IX.E.23 will be taken off the agenda tonight.

Ms. Hanlon announced that the next Executive Affairs Committee meeting will be March 16, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in 801 City Hall.

5. Mr. Hernandez announced that the next Bilingual Advisory Committee meeting will be March 8, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in 801 City Hall.

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APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to excuse Mrs. Evans from tonight's meeting.

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The Board Approved the Agenda Items as follows:

APPROVED, a motion made by Ms. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to remove from the table Items IX.C.18, IX.E.21, IX.E.22 and IX.E.23. The vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2. Granting of Tenure as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.3.a. Instructional Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.3.b. Miscellaneous Civil Service Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.5. Committee on Special Education Members as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.6. Committee on Special Education Members – Regular Teacher Representatives as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.7. Committee on Special Education Members – Special Education Teacher Representatives as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.8. Committee on Special Education Members – (CSE) LEA Representation as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.9. Committee on Special Education – Hearing Officers as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.10. Committee on Special Education – Pre School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.11. Committee on Special Education – Surrogate Parents as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.13. Award of Purchase – Emerson Culinary – New Library Furniture as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.14. Denial of Claim – Nancy Boler – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.15. Denial of Claim – Gladys McDuffie – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.16. Payment for Legal Services – Damon & Morey, LLP – BTF Negotiations as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.17. Payment for Legal Services – Connors & Vilardo, LLP – Battey vs. City of Buffalo as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.18. School Naming – Emerson High School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.D.20. Transfer of Funds – Between Accounts as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.E.21. Policy #5631 – Naming Facilities as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.E.22. Policy #5741 – School Bus Idling as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.E.23. Policy #7317 – Hazing of Students as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Special Item 24. Consultant Contract – Magi Educational Services – Teaching Traditional American History as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

The Board received Reports on the Agenda from the Superintendent as follows:

Item IX.D.19 Report: Transfer of Funds – Between Accounts

Items Pulled

Item IX.A.1. Emergency Conditional Appointments

Item IX.B.12. Consultant Contract – Northwest Community Center

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At this point, the Board went into Executive Session.

President Johnson announced for the record that the Board met in Executive Session from 6:45 p.m. to 7:25 p.m. to discuss three personnel matters and read the following into the record:

May it be resolved that, the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Buffalo approve the resignation for retirement purposes of Arthur Kelder be accepted pursuant to the terms of the Agreement related to it, which the Interim Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the District.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to approve Arthur Kelder's resignation for retirement purposes. The vote was unanimous.

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Unfinished Business/Open Session

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to purchase a \$50 ad for the Harriett Tubman Celebration Journal. The vote was unanimous.

REFERRED to the Finance and Operations Committee by Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Hernandez's Letter regarding the Defrosting of the Control Board Wage Freeze.

REFERRED to the Student Achievement Committee: Consolidation of acronym terminology utilized by the District.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emlyn Rivera
Senior Stenographer

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