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BOARD MINUTES

June 22, 2005

The regular meeting of the Board of Education held on June 22, 2005 commenced at 5:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

All Board Members were present.

The Interim Superintendent was present.

President Johnson presided.

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Board Recognitions

I.A. Stephen Price – BAVPA Student

Interim Superintendent Hargrave read into the record the following:

The Board of Education recognizes Stephen Price, a senior at the Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. He was one of the two winners of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra's *Eleanor V. Millonzi Scholarship* for Erie and Niagara County high school seniors who will major in Music at a college or university.

A classical church organist, Stephen began keyboard studies at the age of six and continued those studies at the BPS Parent Center and with other private instructors. He currently is organist at Pleasant Grover Missionary Baptist Church and is an organ scholar at St. Paul's Episcopal Church under the direction of Andrew Scanlon. Stephen performs in numerous recitals and competitions across the country. He will be a featured soloist at *COLLAGE 2005* AT Shea's Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, May 24th, where he will perform Bach's *Toccatina in D* on the mighty Wurlitzer Organ.

Stephen will continue his organ studies at Western Connecticut University, where he has received a full scholarship. A National Honor Society member, he also performs as first clarinetist in the Concert Band, violist in the String Orchestra and jazz pianist in the Jazz Ensemble at BAVPA.

Congratulations to Stephen Price for achieving this recognition and best wishes in his future endeavors.

Mrs. Curry gave a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board to Mr. Price.

I.B. Music Students – BAVPA

Interim Superintendent Hargrave read into the record the following:

The Board of Education recognizes the students from BAVPA who were involved in the various music competitions this school year. The students in All-County or All-State groups were chosen by audition. The winners are:

Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts:

Griffith Kazmierczak All-County Musician

Laura Sheperd All-County Musician

Victoria Carden All-County Musician

Congratulations to our talented students for achieving this recognition.

Mrs. Curry gave a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board to the students.

I.C. Carolyn Steele – WNYRSSC

Interim Superintendent Hargrave read into the record the following:

The Board of Education recognizes Carolyn A. Steele, Associate Superintendent for the Western New York Regional School Support Center (WNYRSSC), upon her retirement. Ms. Steele was instrumental in building a team of experienced professionals to assist school districts in Western New York.

The WNYRSSC brought together major networks funded by the New York State Education Department to close the gap in student academic achievement in high-needs schools and districts. The center worked with Buffalo Public School staff to improve school performance in the areas of Special Education, Title 1 Schoolwide Planning, Comprehensive School Reform and English Language Learners. In addition to these services, the center also provided a range of health, wellness, and youth development services to all schools.

Congratulations to Carolyn Steele for achieving this recognition. You have our thanks and appreciation for the time and effort you expended to make this project a success and our appreciation for your invaluable assistance and support throughout the years. We wish you every success in your future endeavors.

President Johnson gave a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board to Ms. Steele.

I.D. Ms. Denise Hanlon – North District Board Member

President Johnson read into the record the following:

On behalf of the Board of Education, administrators, staff, students and community, we wish to thank you not only for four years of dedicated service you have provided to the Buffalo Public Schools representing the North District but also for your role as a member of the district's various parent committees, especially the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee.

We greatly appreciate the many contributions you have made to the district. You will be remembered for your quality work as Vice President of Executive Affairs, most notably for chairing the Superintendent's Search, and for your willingness to take the time to attend the other committee meetings. Your knowledge of the district proved to be invaluable time after time.

You have touched the lives of all the staff and students in the Buffalo Public Schools and we know that you will continue your involvement with our schools. Many of the initiatives you championed will have a significant impact on the future of the Buffalo Public Schools.

Again, thank you for your outstanding assistance and support throughout the years. We wish you every success in your future endeavors. You will truly be missed.

President Johnson gave a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board to Ms. Hanlon.

I.E. Mrs. Yvonne Hargrave – Interim Superintendent of Schools

President Johnson read into the record the following:

We, the Members of the Buffalo Board of Education, wish to take this opportunity to honor and recognize an outstanding educator and leader who has given 37 years of dedicated service to the Buffalo Public School District. She is our outgoing Interim Superintendent, Mrs. Hargrave.

We are very proud of the fact that Interim Superintendent Hargrave is a graduate of our Buffalo Public Schools. She has held

many leadership positions in the District and over this school year served as our Interim Superintendent where her leadership allowed this District to remain focused on our reform efforts. Her earnest compassion for wanting to see every child succeed can be noted by the decision she has had to make over the past 12 months. As she prepares for a new chapter that is about to unfold in her life, we would like to wish her continued good health and happiness.

Interim Superintendent Hargrave, we the Members of the Buffalo Board of Education, on behalf of children, families and staff, wish to present to you this token of appreciation that serves as a symbol of our gratitude for your love and commitment.

President Johnson gave a token of appreciation on behalf of the Board to Interim Superintendent Hargrave.

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At this point, President Johnson recognized Dr. James A. Williams, our new Superintendent.

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Speakers made comments on various issues.

Interim Superintendent Hargrave responded to the speakers.

* * * *

Board Minutes

APPROVED, Board Minutes of June 8, 2005. The vote was unanimous.

The Board received Committee Reports as follows:

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

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to move up Item IX.D.65. 2005-06 Budget. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to approve Item IX.D.65. 2005-06 Budget. The vote was unanimous.

Interim Superintendent Hargrave stated for the record that in regards to the resolution to rescind Item IX.C.61. the administration when Mr. Hernandez made his presentation, had a difference of opinion.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Dr. Collins, to approve the resolution to rescind Item IX.C.61. which was approved at the Board Meeting of June 23, 2004. The roll call vote resulted as follows: 5 – Ayes (Dr. Collins, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Grant and Mr. Hernandez), 4 – Noes (Mr. Coyle, Ms. Hanlon, Mr. Jacobs and President Johnson). Motion carried.

Educational Update

Mr. David Mauricio, Director of Special Education, gave an update on the Reading initiatives for students with disabilities.

Continuation of Committee Reports:

2. Mrs. Grant announced that the next Inclusion Committee Meeting will be held on June 27, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 801 City Hall.

3. Dr. Collins reminded Board Members that the Charter School Moratorium Meeting will be held on June 23, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 801 City Hall.

4. The Executive Affairs Committee submitted an oral report through its Chairperson, Ms. Hanlon:

APPROVED, a motion made by Ms. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Evans, to approve the Committee Meetings Schedule for 2005-06. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Hanlon reported that the Executive Committee met Monday to interview the candidates that had applied for the North District vacancy. It is the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Buffalo Board of Education to approve the appointment of Donald A. Van Every.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the legality of the Executive Affairs Committee Meeting held on June 20, 2005 to conduct interviews for the North District vacancy.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Coyle, to approve the appointment of Donald A. Van Every as North District Board Member. The vote resulted as follows: 5 – Ayes (Mr. Coyle, Mrs. Evans, Ms. Hanlon, Mr. Jacobs, President Johnson), 4 – Noes (Dr. Collins, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Hernandez). Motion carried.

The Board Approved the Agenda Items as follows:

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Coyle, to remove Item IX.C.55. District-Wide Safety Plan from the table. The vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2.a. Instructional Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Curry).

Item IX.A.2.b. Miscellaneous Civil Service Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2.c. Administrative Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.4. Consultant Contract – American Red Cross – Learn & Serve - #37 & 202 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.5. Consultant Contract – Lois Johnson – Diversity Plan as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote

was unanimous.

Item IX.B.6. Consultant Contract – Gail Radford – Traditional American History – Summer Institute as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.7. Consultant Contract – Erik Seeman – Traditional American History – Summer Institute as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.8. Consultant Contract – Tamara Thorton – Traditional American History – Summer Institute as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.9. Contract Services – Stan Coleman – CSR Program as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.10. Contract Services – Learner Centered Initiatives – CSR Program as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.11. Contract Services – Contract Services – WNY Regional Support, Erie I BOCES – CSR Program as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.12. CSR Initiative – Middle Level Model – Stanton Academy #31 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.13. CSR Initiative – Professional Learning Communities – Houghton Academy #69 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.14. CSR Initiative – Learner Center Initiative – Web Middle #171/40 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.15. CSR Initiative – Professional Learning Communities – South Park HS #206 as recommended by the Interim

Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.16. CSR Initiative – Professional Learning Communities – Burgard HS #301 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.16.a. CSR Initiative – Learner Center Initiative – Dr. Pantoja Community School #18 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.17. District Credit Course – Beginning InDesign CS as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.18. District Credit Course – Building Assets that Help Children Succeed as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.19. District Credit Course – The Buffalo Zoo: Using the Buffalo Zoo to Meet the Standards as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.20. District Credit Course – Centers Across the Curriculum as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.21. District Credit Course – Effective Classroom Management – June Session as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.22. District Credit Course – Effective Classroom Management – August Session as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.23. District Credit Course – District Credit Course – The Erie Canal: Integrating ELA and Social Studies through Arts as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.24. District Credit Course – Grammar Smarts as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was

unanimous.

Item IX.B.25. District Credit Course – Increasing Reading, Math and Subject Area Awareness as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.26. District Credit Course – Introduction to Photoshop as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.27. District Credit Course – Making Your Computer Work for You as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.28. District Credit Course – NYS Testing Grades 3-8 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.29. District Credit Course – Plants are Essential for Our Daily Living as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.30. District Credit Course – Teaching For, Of and About Thinking as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.31. District Credit Course – Teaching Toolbox – Using the Computer to Promote Learning as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.32. District Credit Course – Touring Buffalo History Through Architecture – Part II as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.33. District Credit Course – Using Your Computer in Another Language as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.34. District Credit Course – The Wired Classroom: Using the Internet Effectively as recommended by the Interim

Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.35. District Credit Training Program – Nonviolent Crisis Intervention as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.36. Non-Public – Non-Employee Travel – Trinity Catholic – Tristan D'Angelo as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.37. Non-Public – Non-Employee Travel – Trinity Catholic – Delores Oakes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.38. Special Education Placement and Services – CPSE – 7/1/04 to 6/10/05 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.39. Special Education Placement and Services – CSE – 7/1/04 to 6/10/05 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.41. Textbook Adoption – AP English as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.42. Textbook Adoption – French – Bon Voyage as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.43. Textbook Adoption – Spanish – Buen Viaje as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.43.a. SURR Correction Action Plans – Harriet Ross Tubman #31 and Futures #37 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.44. 2005-06 Schedule of Regular Board Meetings as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.45. Award of Purchase Order – Harcourt School Publishers – Classroom Reading Material as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.46. Award of Purchase Order – Pearson Learning – Classroom Reading Material as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.47. Award of Purchase Order – Scholastic Books – Classroom Reading Material as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.48. Award of Purchase Order – Xerographic Paper – Service Center as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 5 – Ayes, 4 – Noes (Dr. Collins, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Grant, Mr. Hernandez).

Item IX.C.49. Change Order 3 – URS – Electrical & Acoustic Reconstruction – Schools 32, 43 & 74 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 7 – Ayes, 2 – Noes (Mrs. Grant and Mr. Hernandez).

Item IX.C.50. Change Order 4 – URS – Electrical & Acoustic Reconstruction – Schools 32, 43 & 74 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Grant).

Item IX.C.51. Change Order 9 – Ronco – Network Cabling – District Wide Technology as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Grant).

Item IX.C.52. Consultant Contract – John Kotsis – Field Inspector – Construction Projects as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Grant).

Item IX.C.53. Denial of Claim – Ernest Brown as P/N/G – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.54. Denial of Claim – Gregory Johnson – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.55. District-Wide Safety Plan as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.56. Final Payment – Industrial Power & Lighting – Electrical – Handicapped Access as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.57. Lease Agreement – St. Elizabeth School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.58. Lease Agreement – St. John’s Grace as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.59. Lease Agreement – Suite 524 Tri-Main Development – Assessment Scoring/Storage as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.60. Payment for Legal Services – Damon & Morey – BTF Negotiations – May 2005 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.61. Payment for Legal Services – Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel – BEST Self Insured Health as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.62. Payment for Legal Services – Hodgson Russ – Special Ed – Dec. 04 thru April 05 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – Recuse (Ms Hanlon).

Item IX.C.63. Payment for Legal Services – Hodgson Russ – Special Ed – April thru May 05 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – Recuse (Ms. Hanlon)

Item IX.C.64. Settlement of Claim – Ann Braniecki – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 8 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Curry).

Item IX.D.65. Moved up

Item IX.D.66. Transfers – Between Accounts as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.D.68. Year End Transfers – Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2005 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Special Item 69 Held in abeyance

Special Item 70 Held in abeyance

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

Item IX.D.67. Report: Transfers – Within Accounts

Item Failed

Item IX.B.40. Supplemental Service Providers – Newton Learning by a unanimous vote.

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Unfinished Business

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Evans, seconded by Mr. Coyle, to approve the resolution to do a conversion at School #43 to a PreK-6 Discovery Academy of Fine Arts effective September of 2006 (Attachment A).

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to modify the resolution to convert to a PreK-8 and pending financial approval. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mrs. Evans, to approve travel for Mrs. Johnson to attend a Conference at Harvard University on Racial Isolation with Special Education. The vote was unanimous.

The Board Retreat will be held Friday, August 12th and Saturday, August 13th. Location will be determined at a later date.

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At this point, the Board went into Executive Session.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to allow Mr. Van Every and Dr. Williams to participate in executive session.

President Johnson announced for the record that the Board met in Executive Session from 8:25 p.m. to 8:43 p.m. to discuss two personnel items.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to approve Special Item 69 - Supplemental Instructional Personnel Changes and Special Item 70 – Supplemental Administrative Personnel Changes. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Coyle, to change the date of Ms. Hanlon's resignation from June 30, 2005 to June 22, 2005 and allow the newly voted in Mr. Van Every to be sworn in and take the seat as of the end of this meeting.

At this point, Mr. Donald A. Van Every was sworn in by Mr. James M. Kane, District Clerk.

The meeting adjourned in memory of Alfred Ciardi at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emlyn Rivera
Senior Stenographer

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