

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
EDGEMONT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Edgemont Junior-Senior High School LGI
October 13, 2015
8:15 P.M.

Board president David M. C. Stern, vice-president Anish Nanavaty, Board members, Michael Bianchi, David Chao, Jennifer Darger, and Brian Yarrington were present. Superintendent Victoria S. Kniewel and Assistant Superintendent Susan Shirken, District Clerk Rosemary DeVito, Jennifer Allen, Michael Curtin, Eve Feuerstein, Jennifer Johnson, and Joseph Schippa, also attended. Board member Jonathan Faust was unable to attend. There were 23 community members present.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board president David M. C. Stern called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

At 7:07 P.M. Michael Bianchi made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and to begin Executive Session to discuss special education students, personnel, and legal matters. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

At 8:25 P.M. Jennifer Darger made a motion to readjourn to public session. Anish Nanavaty seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

David M. C. Stern welcomed everyone to tonight's board meeting and acknowledged the large turnout.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Anish Nanavaty made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for September 29, 2015. Michael Bianchi seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

None

IV. RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY

Victoria Kniewel invited Jennifer Johnson to speak on behalf of the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students:

Matthew K. Bernstein	Jungyon Kim	Zachary J. Rubin
Jonathan Douglas	Angela Liu	Sarah W. Salimi
Nainika M. D'Souza	Prinesh K. Mistry	Krishna Saraf
David Huh	Zachary T. Mohamed	Devin Stuzin
Fangwei Jin	Melissa B. Nadasdi	Maya Weber
Hana Kim		

Jennifer congratulated the students and said that each received a letter of commendation placing them among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students. These students received a round of applause from the community, staff, administrators, and Board members for this achievement.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT

David Chao made a motion to accept the monetary gift as listed with great appreciation. Brian Yarrington seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

- Edgemont PTA:
\$795.00 requested for 3rd Grade Seat Sacks, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-205

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a gift in the amount of \$795.00 from the Edgemont PTA requested for Seat Sacks, Greenville School.

Jennifer Allen explained the use of seat sacks. She said they are used for storing school supplies and books and are designed to fit over the back of a classroom chair. Jennifer went on to say that this is a useful teacher resource that helps in classroom management for elementary students. Jennifer thanked the PTA for their generous contribution to Greenville School.

David M. C. Stern said he is appreciative to the PTA for their support of our students. He said this is part of what makes our district great.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Audit Report by the Independent Auditor(s) of
O'Connor Davies LLP

Scott Oling

Victoria Kniewel introduced Scott Oling, Partner, O'Connor Davies, LLP, to present the results of the 2014-2015 Annual Independent Auditors' Report a.k.a. the External Audit for the district. Victoria said that at the conclusion of the presentation, the board will need to accept the report by resolution. Handouts of select pages from the financial statements were distributed to the community.

Scott began his presentation by explaining that the audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the district's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. He explained that the auditors' responsibility is to issue an "auditors' opinion," which is an unqualified opinion on financial statements. He said that the only portion of the report that belongs to the auditors is the auditors' opinion. Scott described the "auditors' opinion" for the district as "clean"—the highest form of assurance auditors can provide.

He explained that the district operates a variety of funds and that the General Fund is the “primary fund of the district” and that this is what the public votes on every spring.

Scott concluded by saying he is very pleased with the audit and that he wanted to thank Susan Shirken and Barbara Weiss “...who do a wonderful job.”

A brief question and answer discussion followed.

David M. C. Stern thanked Scott Oling for a detailed report.

Five-Year Expenditure Review

Susan Shirken

Victoria Kniewel asked Susan Shirken to present the five-year expenditure report. Sue began with a review of the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) and pointed out the percentage decrease in salaries and benefits for 2015. She then reviewed the categories in the Five-Year Expenditure Review (2009-10 to 2014-2015) and said that the focus of tonight’s discussion is on past expenditures.

Sue highlighted the following categories: enrollment, number of professional staff, property assessment, debt service, out-of-district education, and expenditures in buildings and grounds. Sue said that she removed technology expenses from the three codes highlighted in yellow and created a separate technology category. This change is in response to a suggestion from the board. She concluded with comments regarding expenditures per student that have increased from \$24,327 to \$27,401—a difference of \$3,074 per student.

A brief question and answer discussion followed.

David M. C. Stern commented that as salaries have increased, non-personnel expenditures have been carefully managed to the point where they are lower than they were five years ago. David thanked Sue Shirken for her presentation.

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to remove Agenda Item A.5. under Personnel.

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to approve Personnel Items A.1., A.2., A.3., and A.4 and A.6., A.7., A.8., A.9., and A.10. Agenda Item A.5. was removed.

Michael Bianchi made a motion to approve all Agenda Items as listed above by the Superintendent of Schools. Brian Yarrington seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel

1. Per diem Substitute Teacher

- 1.1 Tyler Sick, Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-206

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Tyler Sick, Per diem Substitute Teacher, Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School, during the 2015-2016 school year at a salary of \$100 per day for each day worked, effective October 14, 2015.

2. Change in Assignment/Hours, Teacher Aide,

- 2.1 Amy Lewis, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-207

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a change in assignment/hours for Amy Lewis, Greenville School, at an hourly rate of \$18.09 (Step 4) for each hour worked up to 29.5 hours per week, effective October 14, 2015 and during the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Lewis' assignment will be working as a four-hour per day regular education aide.

3. Volunteer Parent/Guardian Chaperones, Fourth Grade Trips,
Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-208

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individual Volunteer Parent/Guardian Chaperones at Greenville School for Fourth Grade Trips during the 2015-2016 school year:

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 3.1 | Sawako Gensure | 3.4 | Martha Lee Mellis |
| 3.2 | Rachel Glotzer | 3.5 | Julie Merzon |
| 3.3 | Robin Krasner | | |

4. Chris Coffin, Co-Teacher Leader,
K-12 Fine and Performing Arts

RESOLUTION

15-209

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Chris Coffin as Co-Teacher Leader for the K-12 Fine and Performing Arts for the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Coffin will receive a stipend of \$6,070.50 reflecting the \$12,141 stipend provided for in the teachers' contract.

5. ~~7th Grade Team Leaders, Edgemont Jr. Sr. High School~~

~~RESOLUTION~~

~~15-~~

~~RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Teacher Leaders for the 2015-2016 school year at the stipend listed below:~~

Denise Goodliffe	7th Grade	\$1,091.25
(25% of \$4,365 stipend)		
Deborah Hollander	7th Grade	\$3,273.75
(75% of \$4,365 stipend)		

6. Teacher Aides, Greenville School
6. 1 Brittany Meshberg, Teacher Aide, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-210

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Brittany Meshberg as a Teacher Aide in the Edgemont Union Free School District effective October 22, 2015. Ms. Meshberg's assignment will be as a Teacher Aide in the Greenville School whose weekly hours are not to exceed 29.5. Her salary will be at Step 3, \$17.62 per hour.

6.2 Aryn Wexler, Teacher Aide, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-211

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Aryn Wexler as a Teacher Aide in the Edgemont Union Free School District effective October 14, 2015. Ms. Wexler's assignment will be as a Teacher Aide in the Greenville School whose weekly hours are not to exceed 29.5. Her salary will be at Step 1, \$15.76 per hour.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves an additional stipend of \$3.50 for each hour worked due to her Special Education assignment. This stipend is subject to change due to contract negotiations.

7. Four-Day Substitute Teacher, Seely Place School

7.1 Peggy Zapitis, Four-Day Substitute Teacher, Seely Place School

RESOLUTION

15-212

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Peggy Zapitis, Four-day Substitute Teacher, Seely Place School, at a salary of \$100 per day for each day worked, effective October 14, 2015 and for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year.

7.2 Daniel Mahoney, Four-Day Substitute Teacher, Seely Place School

RESOLUTION

15-213

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Daniel Mahoney, Four-day Substitute Teacher, Seely Place School, at a salary of \$100 per day for each day worked, effective October 14, 2015 and for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year.

8. Resignations

8.1 Monica Gelardo, Resignation, Per diem Substitute Teacher

RESOLUTION

15-214

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Monica Gelardo, per diem substitute, effective October 5, 2015.

8.2 Sonnia Sheridan, Per diem Substitute Teacher

RESOLUTION

15-215

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Sonnia Sheridan, per diem substitute, effective October 6, 2015.

9. Lee Schlesinger, English Department Consultant,
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-216

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education authorizes Victoria Kniewel to enter into a Contract for the 2015-2016 school year with Lee Schlesinger for English 10 Honors and Advanced Senior classes, at a per-class fee of \$125, not to exceed \$2,500.

10. Resignation and Appointment of Gerardo Santiago, from Custodial
Worker to Custodial Worker/Groundskeeper, District-Wide

RESOLUTION

15-217

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Gerardo Santiago as Custodial Worker and appoints him to the position of Custodial Worker/Groundskeeper (District-Wide), at a salary of \$69, 140 (Step 11), effective October 16, 2015, subject to successful completion of a twelve month probationary period.

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to approve services for Student #1643 and for Student #1477.

Anish Nanavaty made a motion to approve Student Services for Student #1643 and for Student #1477 as listed by Pupil Personnel Services. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved as follows:

5 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Recusal 1 Absent

- B. Students
1. Programs/Services for five (5) CSE students
(CSE meetings held during the months of September and October 2015)

RESOLUTION

15-218

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, the Board of Education arranges for the programs and services as recommended for the five (5) CSE students who had their CSE meetings during the months of September and October 2015.

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to approve Student #1734, Student #1611, and Student #1846.

Michael Bianchi made a motion to approve Student #1734, Student #1611, and Student #1846. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved as follows: 6 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent.

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to approve Business Items C.1. through C.5. as listed.

Anish Nanavaty made a motion to approve Business Items C.1 through C.5 as listed by the Superintendent of Schools. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

C. Business

1. Acceptance of Independent Audit Report for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year and Approval of the Corrective Action Plan

RESOLUTION

15-219

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Education hereby accepts the audit as prepared by O'Connor Davies llp for the year ending June 30, 2015 and the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. This review includes the basic audit and financial statements for the year ending June 2015 and an audit of the Edgemont Student Activities Fund.

2. Authorization to Dispose of Broken Equipment
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-220

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the disposal of broken equipment as listed below. The cost for repair and service for the equipment exceeds the cost of replacement.

Refrigerator (Cafeteria)

<i>MANUFACTURER</i>	<i>MODEL #</i>	<i>CONDITION</i>	<i>EHS TAG</i>
Continental	Unknown	Broken	N/A

Microfiche Printer (Library)

<i>MANUFACTURER</i>	<i>MODEL #</i>	<i>CONDITION</i>	<i>EHS TAG</i>
Canon	PC Printer 70 Microfiche	Broken	11400

3. Authorization to Approve New Student Clubs

RESOLUTION

15-221

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the formation of the New Student Clubs listed below:

Ambulamus – Mr. Brian Connolly (volunteer)
Cheerleading Club – Ms. Jamie Brookman (volunteer)
Rubik’s Cube Club – Ms. Angela Baldasaro (volunteer)
Gender Equality Club – Ms. ZiZi MacDougall (volunteer)

Jennifer Darger commented on the four new student clubs presented to the board and acknowledged the four faculty members who have agreed to act as advisors to help students pursue outside interests. Jennifer expressed her appreciation and that of the board to Mr. Brian Connolly, Ms. Jamie Brookman, Ms. Angela Baldasaro, and Ms. ZiZi MacDougall for their service.

4. Authorization to Approve Change Order (Credit) for Edgemont Jr.-Sr.
High School Resource Building Roof Replacement Contract

RESOLUTION

15-222

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of schools, the Board of Education approves an allowance credit of (\$4,150.52) for the EHS Resource Building Roof Replacement Contract with Armor-Tite Construction.

5. Approval of Budget Transfers

RESOLUTION

15-223

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfers:

	FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1.	A2250 490 00 0000 BOCES-Project AIIM	A2255 151 02 0000 Instr. Sal.Res. Rm /ABA Class	\$141,000
2.	A2250 460 00 0000 Tuition Public	A2255 150 01 0000 Instr Serv Res. Room	\$ 37,000
3.	A2110 130 01 0000 Instr. Salaries EHS	A2270 150 00 0000 Eng Second Language	\$ 21,700
4.	A2020 160 02 000 Non-Instr Salaries-GR	A2020 401 02 0000 Service Contracts	\$ 20,000
5.	A9071 801 00 0000 CSEA Benefits Capital	A9071 800 00 0000 CSEA Benefits Program	\$ 3,600
6.	A9071 802 00 0000 CSEA Benefits Admin	A9071 800 00 0000 CSEA Benefits Program	\$ 7,900
7.	A9050 800 00 0000 Unemployment Insurance	A9071 800 00 0000 CSEA Benefits Program	\$ 3,950
8.	A2110 130 01 0000 Instr. Salaries EHS	A2020 150 01 0000 Prof Salaries EHS	\$ 2,563

VIII. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

- 10/27/15 Board of Education Regular Meeting 7 P.M.*
Executive Session before Regular Meeting
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School LGI
- 11/10/15 Board of Education Regular Meeting 7 P.M.*
Executive Session before Regular Meeting
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School LGI
- 11/24/15 Board of Education Regular Meeting 7 P.M.*
Executive Session before Regular Meeting
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School LGI

* Please note that all regularly scheduled evening Board meetings will be called to order at 7 P.M. in the Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School Library. There will then be an immediate adjournment to Executive Session with a readjournalment to public session in the LGI at 8:15 P.M.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:19 P.M. Brian Yarrington made a motion to adjourn the public meeting. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve this motion.



Rosemary DeVito
District Clerk, Board of Education



David M. C. Stern
President, Board of Education